



CHOSEN WITH
PURPOSE
ABIDING IN
JESUS

floridageorgia

District Convention • June 22–24, 2018

Proceedings of the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District

Convention Headquarters
Wyndham Orlando Resort International
8001 International Drive
Orlando, Florida 32819

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Gregory S. Walton
President

Mark A. Brink
School Ministries

John Elliott
Finance & Administration

July 27, 2018

To: Convention Delegates

Re: Proceedings

Dear Brothers and Sisters abiding in Jesus,

Greetings in the One who chose us in His grace to abide in His presence, to abide in His fruit, and to abide in His love!

It was a joy and privilege to gather June 22-24, 2018 for the 33rd Regular Convention of the Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. I am, again, humbled and honored to serve you and to serve with you as the District President, and pray that God will work through each of us in the coming triennium to equip, empower and engage to connect people to Jesus!

In the following pages you will find the proceedings, highlighting the work we accomplished together. My reflection on the convention was that it was a peaceful, joy-filled celebration of our faith in Jesus, and the privilege we have to proclaim Him as our Lord and Savior. There was a great sense of unity in our diversity, and a joyous spirit of cooperation, working together for the good of the district, the LCMS, and the various communities we represent.

Again, I thank you for your service as a delegate to the convention, and for the partnership we share as servants of Jesus Christ. May God continue to pour out His blessings on our work together for the souls of those God uses us to reach for the sake of Jesus! May we always be confident that we are chosen with purpose, abiding in Jesus!

Many blessings in His love and grace!

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, President
The Florida-Georgia District, LCMS



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Vision Statement

Every Member...Equipped, Empowered, Engaged...Connecting People to Jesus.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Florida-Georgia District is to Serve, Assist and Encourage congregations in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

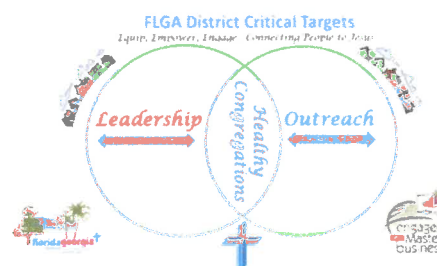
Critical Ministry Targets

Critical Ministry Target: Leadership

District and congregational leaders are loving, visionary people of the Word, models of healthy Christ-centered living, and life-long learners committed to equipping and empowering others to join in fulfilling the Church's role in God's mission.

Desired Outcome

- District leaders show an annual increase in the number of objective continuing education benchmarks completed.
- Demographic and generational diversity among leaders in the District to increase annually



Critical Ministry Target: Outreach

Living out their faith in Jesus with urgency and joy, the people of the Florida-Georgia District eagerly invest, both individually and corporately, in bold and intentional service and witness to make known the love of Christ to all people.

Desired Outcome

- District congregations report at least 3,500 adult confirmations and professions of faith annually.

Core Value Statement

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIV)

- ∞ We value the truth that all people matter to God and therefore to us. (1 John 2:1-2; Acts 1:8)
- ∞ We value the gathered fellowship of believers. (Acts 2:42-47; Colossians 3:11-17)
- ∞ We value life-long nurturing of the faith (Christian Education). (Ephesians 4:14-16; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; Hebrews 5:11-6:3; Colossians 3:11-17)
- ∞ We value the gifts of God's people as they offer them in service, both individually and corporately, to the Church and the world. (Ephesians 4:7-13; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Peter 4:10-11; 1 Corinthians 12)
- ∞ We value servant leadership. (Mark 10:35-45; Acts 28:3a; Mark 9:33-37; Philippians 2:1-11; Isaiah 61:1-3; John 13:14-17; Isaiah 42:1-4)
- ∞ We value integrity. (Genesis 39:9; James 1:22-25; Psalm 78:70-72; Ephesians 4:1-2, 14-16; Ezekiel 11:16-20; Jeremiah 31)
- ∞ We value a trust in God and His people which frees us for responsible risk-taking. (Matthew 15:21-28; Genesis 18:16-33; Matthew 16:21; Acts 4:8-13)

Therefore we are committed to carry on this God-given, Spirit-driven ministry of Word and Sacrament through which He shares His love for us and empowers us to share His love with others.

**Convention Headquarters
Wyndham Orlando Resort International
8001 International Drive
Orlando, Florida 32819**

District President

The Reverend Dr. Gregory S. Walton
The Florida-Georgia District, LCMS
Orlando, Florida

Convention Manager

The Reverend David C. Brighton, Pastor
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church
Warner Robins, Georgia

Special Guest

The Reverend Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Saint Louis, Missouri

Convention Chaplain/Host Congregation

The Reverend Douglas Kallesen, Sr. Pastor
Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church
Orlando, Florida

Convention Bible Study Leader

The Reverend Dr. David P. E. Maier, President
Michigan District, LCMS
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Parliamentarian

The Reverend Pat F. A. O'Brien, Emeritus
First Lutheran Church
Clearwater, Florida

Convention Essayist

The Reverend Dr. Dale A. Meyer, President
Concordia Seminary
Saint Louis, Missouri

Judge of Elections

The Reverend Kenneth D. Green, II, Pastor
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church; Principe de Paz
Orlando, Florida

Synod Representative

The Reverend Christopher S. Esget,
6th vice-president, LCMS
Immanuel Evangelical-Lutheran Church
Alexandria, Virginia

Nominations Chair

The Reverend James R. Guelzow, Emeritus
Tampa, Florida

Exhibit Coordinator

Mrs. Debra Arrington
The Florida-Georgia District, LCMS
Orlando, Florida

District Staff: The Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, Mr. Mark Brink, Mr. Daniel J. Reichard, Mr. John M. Elliott, Mrs. Cindy Hammerstrom, Mrs. Kathy Keene, Mrs. Debra Arrington, Mrs. Lynda Voss, Mrs. Laura Zirbel.

Convention Nomination Committee

Ordained:	The Rev. James R. Guelzow (Chairman); Rev. Dana Narring
Commissioned:	Mr. Jim Richards; Mrs. Heidi Wuggazer
Lay:	Ms. Deb Baldwin; Ms. Joyce Brown; Mr. David Eichinger; Mr. Ruben Vinardell
Advisory:	The Rev. Jay A. Winters

2018 District Convention Floor Committees

Floor Committee 1 – **Ministry and Outreach**

Chairman: Rev. Stephen Wipperman

Members: Mr. Don Kaufman
Mr. John List
Rev. Frank Marshall
Mr. Jeff Richards
Ms. Lois Schaefer

Floor Committee 2 – **Ministry and Leadership**

Chairman: Rev. David Brighton

Members: Ms. Eileen Bishop List
Mr. Mark Brink
Mr. Tom Reagin
Ms. Karen Smith
Ms. Tamie Worthington

Floor Committee 3 – **Administration and Theology**

Chairman: Rev. Jon Zehnder

Members: Mr. Jesse Crosmer
Ms. Lois Ford
Mr. William “Rusty” Huseman
Rev. Dr. Brian Kneser
Rev. Jay Winters

Florida-Georgia District Delegates of the 33rd Regular Convention

Title	First	Last	Delegate	Congregation	City	State
Mr.	Mike	Grebel Sr.	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Albany	GA
Rev.	Douglas	Hudson	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Albany	GA
Mr.	Timothy	Horvath	Lay Delegate	St Paul	Apopka	FL
Rev.	Donald	Moore	Pastoral Delegate	St Paul	Apopka	FL
Rev.	Anthony	Arias	Pastoral Delegate	Grace	Arcadia	FL
LLD	Marthinus (James)	Olckers	Lay Delegate	Grace	Arcadia	FL
Mr.	Dan	Aamoth	Lay Delegate	Christus Victor	Athens	GA
Rev.	Gregory	Michael	Pastoral Delegate	Christus Victor	Athens	GA
Mr.	Adam	Ozgo	Lay Delegate	Grace	Atlanta	GA
Mr.	Joshua	Eckstein	Advisory Delegate	Our Redeemer	Augusta	GA
Mr.	Michael	Missey	Lay Delegate	Our Redeemer	Augusta	GA
Rev.	Roger	Schwartz	Pastoral Delegate	Our Redeemer	Augusta	GA
Mrs.	Linda	McLean	Lay Delegate	Christ	Avon Park	FL
Rev.	Scott	McLean	Pastoral Delegate	Christ	Avon Park	FL
Rev.	Dave	Wesche	Pastoral Delegate	All Saints	Blairsville	GA
Mrs.	Sally	Wesche	Lay Delegate	All Saints	Blairsville	GA
Rev.	Stephen	Carretto	Pastoral Delegate	St Paul	Boca Raton	FL
Mr.	John	List	Lay Delegate	St Paul	Boca Raton	FL
Rev.	Richard	Browning	Pastoral Delegate	Hope	Bonita Springs	FL
Rev.	Craig	Mathews	Pastoral Delegate	Hope	Bradenton	FL
Mrs.	D'Lisa	Richards	Lay Delegate	Hope	Bradenton	FL
Rev.	Paul	Meseke	Pastoral Delegate	Christ	Brooksville	FL
Mr.	Jon	Brazee	Lay Delegate	Christ	Cape Canaveral	FL
Rev.	Gregory	Le Sieur	Pastoral Delegate	Christ	Cape Canaveral	FL
Rev.	Charles	Kanefke	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Cape Coral	FL
Mrs.	Linda	Wabrek	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Cape Coral	FL
Mr.	Dennis	Melde	Lay Delegate	Savior of All	Cartersville	GA
Rev.	Tom	Eggebrecht	Pastoral Delegate	Ascension	Casselberry	FL
Mr.	Matt	Miessler	Lay Delegate	Ascension	Casselberry	FL
Mrs.	Martha	Reaves	Lay Delegate	Good Shepherd	Chiefland	FL
Mr.	Ronald	Perkins, Jr.	Lay Delegate	Bethel	Clearwater	FL
Rev.	Eric	Eichinger	Pastoral Delegate	Bethel	Clearwater	FL
Mr.	Fredrick	Howard	Lay Delegate	First	Clearwater	FL
Mr.	Verle	Hennings	Lay Delegate	Faith	Clewiston	FL
Rev. Dr.	Angel	Ramos	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	Clewiston	FL
Rev.	Bradley	Arnholt	Pastoral Delegate	Bethlehem	Columbus	GA
Mr.	Dave	Daugherty	Lay Delegate	Redeemer	Columbus	GA
Rev.	Eric	Estes	Pastoral Delegate	Redeemer	Columbus	GA
Rev.	Bert	Matlock	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Crawfordville	FL
Ms.	Janice	Salgado	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Crawfordville	FL
Rev.	Tim	Droegemueller	Pastoral Delegate	Living Faith	Cumming	GA
Rev. Dr.	Gerhard	Michael, Jr.	Pastoral Delegate	St Peter	Dahlonega	GA

Title	First	Last	Delegate	Congregation	City	State
Rev.	George	Poulos	Pastoral Delegate	Gloria Dei	Davie	FL
Mr.	Michael	Schweiger	Lay Delegate	Gloria Dei	Davie	FL
Mr.	William	Burrus	Lay Delegate	Peace	Decatur	GA
Rev.	Daniel	Bartley	Pastoral Delegate	Emmanuel	Delray Beach	FL
Rev.	Vincent	Putnam	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Delray Beach	FL
Mrs.	Jacqueline	Slye	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Delray Beach	FL
Mr.	Leon	Wilkins	Lay Delegate	Prince of Peace	Douglasville	GA
Rev.	George	Murdaugh	Pastoral Delegate	Prince of Peace	Douglasville	GA
Mr.	Paul	Martin	Lay Delegate	Faith	Dunedin	FL
Rev.	Andrew	Sorenson	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	Dunedin	FL
Mrs.	Cynthia L	McKee	Lay Delegate	Peace	Dunnellon	FL
Rev.	Terry	McKee	Pastoral Delegate	Peace	Dunnellon	FL
Mr.	Bill	Bowers	Lay Delegate	Redeemer	Englewood	FL
Rev.	Jim	Kress	Pastoral Delegate	Redeemer	Englewood	FL
Mr.	Jeff	Albright	Lay Delegate	Faith	Eustis	FL
Rev.	Marc	Kappel	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	Eustis	FL
Mr.	William	Kemp	Lay Delegate	Shepherd of the Coast	Ft Lauderdale	FL
Rev.	Stephen	Reynolds	Pastoral Delegate	Shepherd of the Coast	Ft Lauderdale	FL
Mr.	Roger	Lewandowski	Lay Delegate	Bethlehem	Ft Myers	FL
Rev.	Darrell	Stuehrenberg	Pastoral Delegate	Bethlehem	Ft Myers	FL
Rev.	Jon	Zehnder	Pastoral Delegate	St Michael	Ft Myers	FL
Mr.	Kelly	Zinn	Lay Delegate	St Michael	Ft Myers	FL
Rev. Dr.	Curtis	Deterding	Pastoral Delegate	Zion	Ft Myers	FL
Mrs.	Trudy	Helgeson	Lay Delegate	Zion	Ft Myers	FL
Ms.	Louise	Weber	Advisory Delegate	Zion	Ft Myers	FL
Mr.	Michael	Weber	Advisory Delegate	Zion	Ft Myers	FL
Rev.	Craig	Bode	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Ft Pierce	FL
Mr.	Jim	Davis	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Ft Pierce	FL
Rev.	Alan	Struckmeyer	Pastoral Delegate	Abiding Savior	Gainesville	FL
Mr.	John	Underwood	Lay Delegate	Abiding Savior	Gainesville	FL
Rev.	John	Glover	Pastoral Delegate	First	Gainesville	FL
Ms.	Julie	Kahlfeldt	Lay Delegate	First	Gainesville	FL
Mrs.	Tracie	Hoffman	Lay Delegate	Good Shepherd	Gainesville	GA
Rev.	Zach	Hoffman	Pastoral Delegate	Good Shepherd	Gainesville	GA
Mr.	Mickey	Nichols	Alternate Lay Delegate	Christ Our Savior	Griffin	GA
Rev.	Joseph	Warnke	Pastoral Delegate	Christ Our Savior	Griffin	GA
Mrs.	Claudette	Scott	Lay Delegate	Bethel	Hobe Sound	FL
Rev.	Edward	Scott	Pastoral Delegate	Bethel	Hobe Sound	FL
Rev. Dr.	T. Kent	Fuqua	Pastoral Delegate	Hope	Hudson	FL
Mr.	Robert	Klee	Lay Delegate	Hope	Hudson	FL
Rev.	Thomas	Beaverson	Pastoral Delegate	First	Inverness	FL
Mr.	Jack	Cook	Lay Delegate	First	Inverness	FL
Mrs.	Amy	Skopak	Lay Delegate	Grace	Jacksonville	FL
Rev. Dr.	Jeffrey	Skopak	Pastoral Delegate	Grace	Jacksonville	FL

Title	First	Last	Delegate	Congregation	City	State
Dr.	Ronald K.	Charlton	Lay Delegate	Hope	Jacksonville	FL
Rev.	Patrick	McKenzie	Pastoral Delegate	Hope	Jacksonville	FL
Mr.	Peter	Kerner	Lay Delegate	Our Redeemer	Jacksonville	FL
Rev.	William	Reister	Pastoral Delegate	Our Redeemer	Jacksonville	FL
Mrs.	Naomi	Mungin	Lay Delegate	St Paul	Jacksonville	FL
Rev.	James	Wiggins Jr.	Pastoral Delegate	St Paul	Jacksonville	FL
Rev.	Dana	Brones	Pastoral Delegate	Bethlehem	Jacksonville Beach	FL
Mr.	Gordon	Gruhn	Lay Delegate	Bethlehem	Jacksonville Beach	FL
Mr.	Don	Bly	Lay Delegate	Grace	Key West	FL
Rev.	Gary	Faith	Pastoral Delegate	Grace	Key West	FL
Mr.	Jerry	Haack	Lay Delegate	Holy Trinity	Kingsland	GA
Rev. Dr.	Joel	Meyer	Pastoral Delegate	Holy Trinity	Kingsland	GA
Rev.	Stephen	Fair	Pastoral Delegate	Our Redeemer	Lake City	FL
Mr.	Charles	Wilder	Lay Delegate	Our Redeemer	Lake City	FL
Rev.	Richard	Norris	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Lake Placid	FL
Mr.	Stephen	Bradshaw	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Lake Placid	FL
Mr.	Sean	Cannon	Lay Delegate	Epiphany	Lake Worth	FL
Mr.	Lee	Disbury	Lay Delegate	Our Savior	Lake Worth	FL
Rev.	Scott	Gress	Advisory Delegate	Our Savior	Lake Worth	FL
Rev.	Jacob	Roedsens	Advisory Delegate	Our Savior	Lake Worth	FL
Rev.	Stephen	Wipperman	Pastoral Delegate	Our Savior	Lake Worth	FL
Rev.	Elie	Louissaint	Pastoral Delegate	Salem Haitian	Lake Worth	FL
Mr.	Jon	Pearson	Lay Delegate	Christ	Lakeland	FL
Mrs.	Jennifer	Judge	Lay Delegate	St Paul	Lakeland	FL
Rev.	Andrew	Ritchie	Pastoral Delegate	St Paul	Lakeland	FL
Rev.	Joe	Adams	Pastoral Delegate	Christ the King	Largo	FL
Mr.	Thomas	Rabe	Lay Delegate	Christ the King	Largo	FL
Rev.	Stephen	Lane	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	Lecanto	FL
Mrs.	Eva M.	Gonzalez	Lay Delegate	Beautiful Savior	Lehigh Acres	FL
Rev.	Juan A.	Gonzalez	Pastoral Delegate	Beautiful Savior	Lehigh Acres	FL
Mr.	Carl	Lieberman	Lay Delegate	Oak Road	Lilburn	GA
Rev.	Steven	Naylor	Pastoral Delegate	Holy Trinity	Lutz	FL
Mr.	Jason	Dixon	Lay Delegate	Martin Luther	Marathon	FL
Rev.	Anthony	Mandile	Pastoral Delegate	Martin Luther	Marathon	FL
Rev.	Thomas	Boeck	Pastoral Delegate	Marco	Marco Island	FL
Ms.	Dawn	Snyder	Lay Delegate	Marco	Marco Island	FL
Rev.	Carl	Schneider	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	Marietta	GA
Rev. Dr.	David	Brockhoff	Pastoral Delegate	Holy Trinity	Masaryktown	FL
Mr.	Mark	Judd	Lay Delegate	Holy Trinity	Masaryktown	FL
Rev.	Chris	Patterson	Pastoral Delegate	Concordia	Miami	FL
Mrs.	Anna	Leggett	Lay Delegate	Our Saviour	Miami	FL
Rev.	James	Leggett	Pastoral Delegate	Our Saviour	Miami	FL
Mr.	Dale	Robinson	Lay Delegate	San Pablo Apostol	Miami	FL
Mr.	Mike	Parages	Lay Delegate	St Paul	Miami	FL
Rev.	Alan	Sielk	Pastoral Delegate	St Paul	Miami	FL

Title	First	Last	Delegate	Congregation	City	State
Rev. Dr.	Brian	Kneser	Pastoral Delegate	Woodlands	Montverde	FL
Mr.	Clinton	Lowe	Lay Delegate	Woodlands	Montverde	FL
Mr.	Patrick	Perri	Lay Delegate	Grace	Naples	FL
Rev. Dr.	Karl	Galik	Pastoral Delegate	Peace	Naples	FL
Mrs.	Marilouise	Galik	Lay Delegate	Peace	Naples	FL
Rev.	Samuel	Boodle	Pastoral Delegate	Nassau	Nassau	Bahamas
Mr.	JOY	Mwalugaja	Lay Delegate	Nassau	Nassau	Bahamas
Mrs.	Freda	Steinke	Lay Delegate	Faith	New Port Richey	FL
Rev.	Robert	Steinke	Advisory Delegate	Faith	New Port Richey	FL
Mr.	Samuel	Ludington	Lay Delegate	Holy Cross	North Miami	FL
Rev.	Dennis	Bartels	Pastoral Delegate	Holy Cross	North Miami	FL
Dr.	Magdala	Ray	Lay Delegate	Faith	North Palm Beach	FL
Rev.	Mark	Stillman	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	North Palm Beach	FL
Mr.	Donald	Kaufman	Lay Delegate	St John	Ocala	FL
Mrs.	Anette	Shanks	Advisory Delegate	St John	Ocala	FL
Rev.	Jeffrey	Shanks	Pastoral Delegate	St John	Ocala	FL
Rev.	John	Hirst	Pastoral Delegate	Peace	Okeechobee	FL
Mrs.	Karen	Smith	Lay Delegate	Peace	Okeechobee	FL
Rev.	Timothy	Brown	Pastoral Delegate	Christ the King	Orlando	FL
Mrs.	Corinne	Fennessy	Lay Delegate	Christ the King	Orlando	FL
Ms.	Michele	Branham	Lay Delegate	Hope	Orlando	FL
Rev.	Paul	vonWerder	Pastoral Delegate	Hope	Orlando	FL
Ms.	Norna	Williams	Lay Delegate	Our Savior	Orlando	FL
Mrs.	Katie	Abercrombie	Lay Delegate	Prince of Peace	Orlando	FL
Rev.	Adolfo	Borges	Pastoral Delegate	Prince of Peace	Orlando	FL
Mr.	David	Wiedner	Advisory Delegate	Prince of Peace	Orlando	FL
Mr.	Mark	Brink	Advisory Delegate	Trinity	Orlando	FL
Mrs.	Kathy	Aber	Lay Delegate	Trinity Downtown	Orlando	FL
Rev.	Doug	Kallesen	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity Downtown	Orlando	FL
Mr.	Jeff	Robinson	Lay Delegate	Amazing Grace	Oxford	FL
Rev.	James	Rockey	Pastoral Delegate	Amazing Grace	Oxford	FL
Mr.	Stephen	Rockey	Advisory Delegate	Amazing Grace	Oxford	FL
Rev.	Gary	Held	Pastoral Delegate	Risen Savior	Palm Bay	FL
Mr.	Fred	Anderson	Lay Delegate	Risen Savior	Palm Bay	FL
Mrs.	Tamie	Worthington	Advisory Delegate	St Paul	Peachtree City	GA
Ms.	Linda	Stark	Lay Delegate	St Paul	Peachtree City	GA
Rev.	John	Lehenbauer	Pastoral Delegate	Christ	Perry	GA
Mr.	Robert	Pinckney	Lay Delegate	Christ	Perry	GA
Rev.	Dean	Pfeffer	Pastoral Delegate	Hope	Plant City	FL
Mr.	Todd	Warner	Lay Delegate	Hope	Plant City	FL
Mr.	David	Gruntman	Lay Delegate	Lutheran Church of the Cross	Port Charlotte	FL
Rev.	Raymond	Stolarczyk	Pastoral Delegate	Lutheran Church of the Cross	Port Charlotte	FL

Title	First	Last	Delegate	Congregation	City	State
Rev.	Cris	Escher	Pastoral Delegate	Grace	Port St Lucie	FL
Mr.	Kevin	Garbers	Lay Delegate	Grace	Port St Lucie	FL
Rev.	Dana	Narring	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	Punta Gorda	FL
Mrs.	Susan	Narring	Lay Delegate	Faith	Punta Gorda	FL
Mr.	Charlie	Talbott	Lay Delegate	Christ the King	Riverview	FL
Rev.	Kevin	Yoakum	Pastoral Delegate	Christ the King	Riverview	FL
Mr.	Richard	Dey	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Rockledge	FL
Rev.	Alan	Koch	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Rockledge	FL
Rev.	Alan	Koch	Advisory Delegate	Trinity	Rockledge	FL
Rev.	Jacob	Berlinski	Advisory Delegate	Rivercliff	Sandy Springs	GA
Mr.	Steven	Frerking	Lay Delegate	Rivercliff	Sandy Springs	GA
Rev.	Jeffrey	Jordan	Pastoral Delegate	Rivercliff	Sandy Springs	GA
Rev.	Edward	DeWitt	Pastoral Delegate	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	Sanford	FL
Mr.	Douglas	Komm	Lay Delegate	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	Sanford	FL
Mr.	Don	Wild	Lay Delegate	Beautiful Savior	Sarasota	FL
Rev.	Rossetter	Leavitt	Pastoral Delegate	Beautiful Savior	Sarasota	FL
Rev.	Stephen	Gaulke	Pastoral Delegate	Concordia	Sarasota	FL
Rev.	Steven	Anderson	Pastoral Delegate	Good Shepherd	Sarasota	FL
Ms.	Margo	Arehart	Lay Delegate	Concordia	Sarasota	FL
Mr.	James	Aberson	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Savannah	GA
Rev.	Robert	Mauella	Pastoral Delegate	Faith	Sebring	FL
Mrs.	Carol Lynn	Scheer	Lay Delegate	Forest	Silver Springs,	FL
Rev.	Ronald	Scheer	Advisory Delegate	Forest	Silver Springs,	FL
Mr.	Larry	Mull	Lay Delegate	Christ Our Savior	St Augustine	FL
Rev.	Tim	Nickel	Advisory Delegate	Christ Our Savior	St Augustine	FL
Mrs.	Nelda	Bauer	Lay Delegate	Grace	St Cloud	FL
Rev.	Joshua	Obermann	Pastoral Delegate	Grace	St Cloud	FL
Rev.	Kevin	Loughran	Pastoral Delegate	Grace	St Petersburg	FL
Mr.	Gary	Tocklin	Lay Delegate	Grace	St Petersburg	FL
Rev. Dr.	Paul	Burtzlaff	Pastoral Delegate	Our Savior	St Petersburg	FL
Rev.	Albert	Oren	Pastoral Delegate	Christ Our Savior	St. Augustine	FL
Rev.	Samuel	Clay	Pastoral Delegate	St. Paul	Statesboro	GA
Mrs.	Johnetta	Gillies	Lay Delegate	Incarnate Word	Stone Mountain	GA
Rev. Dr.	Wilton	Heyliger	Pastoral Delegate	Incarnate Word	Stone Mountain	GA
Rev.	David	Albers	Pastoral Delegate	Redeemer	Stuart	FL
Mr.	Russ	Reaver	Lay Delegate	Redeemer	Stuart	FL
Rev.	Jim	Weist	Advisory Delegate	Redeemer	Stuart	FL
Ms.	Donna	Battard	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Summerfield	FL
Rev.	Blair	Clark	Advisory Delegate	Trinity	Summerfield	FL
Rev.	Daniel	Kelm	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Summerfield	FL
Rev.	Richard	Boyd	Pastoral Delegate	Epiphany	Tallahassee	FL
Mr.	Gar	Schafer	Alt. Lay Delegate	Epiphany	Tallahassee	FL
Dr.	Joel	Holcombe	Lay Delegate	University	Tallahassee	FL
Rev.	Jay	Winters	Pastoral Delegate	University	Tallahassee	FL
Rev.	Andrew	Schermbeck	Pastoral Delegate	Holy Trinity	Tampa	FL
Mrs.	Ginger	Torgimson	Lay Delegate	Holy Trinity	Tampa	FL

Title	First	Last	Delegate	Congregation	City	State
Rev.	Jim	Guelzow	Advisory Delegate	Messiah	Tampa	FL
Rev.	Mark	Adrian	Pastoral Delegate	Messiah	Tampa	FL
Mr.	Michael	Parnow	Lay Delegate	Messiah	Tampa	FL
Ms.	Pauline	Lewis	Lay Delegate	Zion	Tampa	FL
Rev.	Bruce	Alberts	Pastoral Delegate	Good Shepherd	Titusville	FL
Mr.	Tom	Lau	Lay Delegate	Good Shepherd	Titusville	FL
Mr.	William	Gaik	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Toccoa	GA
Rev.	Roland	Vega	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Toccoa	GA
Mr.	John	Dupps	Lay Delegate	Trinity	Trinity	FL
Rev.	Marc	Nauman	Pastoral Delegate	Trinity	Trinity	FL
Rev.	Hiruy	Gebremichael	Pastoral Delegate	St Mark	Tucker	GA
Mr.	Howard	Swanson	Lay Delegate	St Mark	Tucker	GA
Rev.	Frank	Kinast	Pastoral Delegate	Messiah	Valdosta	GA
Dr.	Ben	Wescoatt	Lay Delegate	Messiah	Valdosta	GA
Rev.	Christopher	Kollmann	Pastoral Delegate	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	Vero Beach	FL
Mr.	Ernest	Sheppard	Lay Delegate	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	Vero Beach	FL
Mr.	Bill	Bohm	Lay Delegate	Mt Calvary	Warner Robins	GA
Rev.	David	Brighton	Pastoral Delegate	Mt Calvary	Warner Robins	GA
Dr.	Wes	Borucki	Lay Delegate	Redeemer	West Palm Beach	FL
Rev.	Daniel	McPherson	Pastoral Delegate	Redeemer	West Palm Beach	FL
Rev.	Timothy	Hartner	Pastoral Delegate	St Paul	Weston	FL
Rev.	Roberto	Rojas	Pastoral Delegate	Zion	Winter Garden	FL
Mr.	Ron	Kirin	Lay Delegate	Grace	Winter Haven	FL
Rev.	Charles	Reich	Pastoral Delegate	Grace	Winter Haven	FL
Dr.	Eugenia	Kolasinski	Alternate Lay Delegate	Our Savior	Zephyrhills	FL
Rev.	Tod	Shouse	Pastoral Delegate	Our Savior	Zephyrhills	FL

CONVENTION SCHEDULE 2018

Chosen With Purpose—To Abide in Jesus

John 5:12-17

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2018 Abiding In His Presence

12:00 p.m.	Registration Opens Exhibits Open
1:00 p.m.	Floor Committee Meetings
2:30 p.m.	Open Hearings – Floor Committees
5:00 p.m.	Registration and Exhibits Close Dinner on your own
6:00 p.m.	Opening Worship Rev. Christopher Esget, Preacher
6:40 p.m.	Session I Standing Rules
7:00 p.m.	Regional Caucuses
7:30 p.m.	Break
7:45 p.m.	President's Report Elections
8:15 p.m.	Bible Study I – The Rev. Dr. David Maier, President Michigan District <i>doulos tou Christou</i> – Commissioned Minister of Religion
8:55 p.m.	Essay Presentation I – The Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer
9:30 p.m.	President's Reception – hosted by Grace Place; LCEF; The Foundation

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2018 Abiding in His Fruit

8:00 a.m.	Opening Devotion Exhibits Open
8:15 a.m.	Session II Elections Bible Study II - The Rev. Dr. David Maier, President Michigan District Missions & Outreach Resolutions Presentations <i>doulos tou Christou</i> Award – Commissioned Minister of Religion
10:00 a.m.	Break
10:20 a.m.	School & Youth Ministry Report Ministry & Leadership Resolutions <i>doulos tou Christou</i> Award – Lay Person
11:45 a.m.	Lunch

Saturday, June 23, 2018, cont.

12:45 p.m. Session III

Special Presentation

Guests

Circuit Visitor Ratification

Ministry Moments

2:30 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. Administration & Theology Resolutions

Bylaw Presentation

Elections

Report from Synod Representative— The Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President

5:30 p.m. Closing Prayer

Exhibits Close

6:00 p.m. Dinner on your own

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2018

Abiding in His Love

8:00 a.m. Convention Worship with Holy Communion, President Gregory Walton preaching
Installation of District President

9:00 a.m. Session IV

Essay Presentation II

Question and Answer with President Matthew Harrison

Treasurer's Report

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. *doulos tou Christou* Award -- Ordained

10:50 a.m. Unfinished Convention Business

Elections

11:30 p.m. Installation of newly elected officers

12:15 p.m. Adjournment

The President's Report 2018 Florida-Georgia District Convention

Congratulations! You have been chosen! Perhaps you have been chosen as a delegate to the 33rd Regular Convention of the Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. All of us have been chosen with purpose, and that purpose is to abide in Jesus! That's the theme as we gather for our District Convention. "Chosen with Purpose—to Abide in Jesus!" It comes from John 15:12-17. There Jesus bookends this conversation with a commandment for believers to love each other. It's one of the only places in the whole New Testament where Jesus gives a direct command, and that command is simply to love one another. We will focus on His love as we gather at the Wyndham Orlando on International Drive in Orlando, Florida.

Each day of our convention will have a specific focus. As we gather on Friday, June 22, we will abide in His presence. That evening we will gather for worship and celebrate our 70th Anniversary. It is His presence that draws us together. It is His presence that brings us peace and joy. It is His presence that enables us to celebrate our faith. It is in His presence that we come together to proclaim with bold voices our faith in Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Day two will focus on abiding in His fruit. We will focus on bearing fruit for Jesus as we carry out the business portion of our gathering. We will deal with elections and resolutions, we will hear from special guests who will bring us greetings and remind us of our partnerships. We will listen to our Synod President and focus on the mission our Lord Jesus has given His Church on earth. Jesus reminds us, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last..." The work we do together will have a lasting impact on our shared ministry in the Florida-Georgia District.

On the final day of the convention we will focus on abiding in His love. As we abide in Jesus, as we live as chosen people, we are called to live in His love. Not only does Jesus encourage this, but He literally commands that we do it. As we leave the convention we depart in His love, fed by the Sacrament of His body and blood, having been washed clean and chosen with purpose in the waters of baptism, ready to meet the challenges of proclaiming our Lord and Savior Jesus to the world.

Chosen with Purpose! It's really a key to why we do any of what we do. In His marvelous grace and favor we have been chosen by God. We have neither earned nor deserved this by our thoughts or actions. In fact, our God has shown us His unmerited love by sending us Jesus, who would suffer and die in our place, and then rise to wipe away our sins and give us new life. Only as we recognize the depth of His love and grace can we begin to comprehend the blessing of being chosen. You have been chosen! It's a fact. God has declared you to be His very own. Rejoice in this! Abide in this. Just don't stay there. God has called us to be conduits of His love and grace, reaching more and more people with His love. We are to be a river, allowing God to flow through our lives, rather than a reservoir that keeps water in. The church certainly should celebrate the fact that we are chosen, but we must not rest there indefinitely. We are chosen with purpose, and that purpose is to connect people to Jesus!

The next triennium will prove to be filled with more transitions, especially in regard to staffing. This has been an ongoing task since I began serving, with retirements and the like. We will be seeking to fill several roles on the District Staff, including the vacancy left when Rev. Doug Kallesen, former Mission Executive, returned to the parish. Pastor Kallesen will be serving as our convention chaplain, and we are proud of the job he is doing at Trinity Lutheran Church, Orlando.

We also learned in April that Mr. Daniel J. Reichard was promoted from serving as our District Vice President of LCEF, to Regional Vice President of the Eastern Region of LCEF. While his new duties include the Florida-Georgia District, we are one of thirteen districts for which he will have responsibility. A search for a new District Vice President for LCEF will begin shortly and will be coordinated with the National Office of LCEF and my office. In addition to that, Vicar John Elliott, who began the SMP program a couple of years ago, will be ordained in June, and will be leaving at the end of July to begin serving in full-time ministry work at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Oviedo, FL, with a focus on Lutheran Haven. Some of the support staff will also possibly moving with Dan Reichard, which leaves some gaping holes in the current staff. This is a wonderful opportunity to reassess and realign staffing, and I am actively working on that as we prepare for the District Convention.

Reflecting on the past three years, God has abundantly blessed our work together. We continue to focus on two specific areas of ministry. These critical targets are **leadership** and **outreach**. I have come to the conclusion that if we continually strengthen leaders, both professional and among our laity, we will strengthen our ministries. John Maxwell has said, "Everything rises and falls on leadership." Where leaders are strengthened and supported exciting ministry takes place. To that end, several years ago we developed, along with Kurt Bickel, a program called Emergent Leaders. This is a ten day program that helps leaders identify their strengths and build on them. Currently we have had seven sessions with close to 100 participants that have included pastors, administrators, teachers, DCEs, musicians, and lay people. The mix of people has been very conducive for a growing understanding of ministry demands and many participants have expressed great appreciation for this opportunity. In addition, we have made a number of opportunities available to assist our workers in their personal growth, from bringing Pastoral Leadership Institute to the District, to DOXOLOGY, to Grace Place Wellness. We have provided scholarships to conferences and brought speakers to our conferences to make them practical and applicable to local ministries. It is my conviction that the District staff exists to lift up the ministries on the front line. Our mission has been and still is to serve, assist and encourage ministries in their proclamation of the Gospel. It is all about Jesus!

In the area of outreach we have spent considerable time reassessing our mission program. You will read in the Mission Report more about the specifics, but suffice it to say, one of the most critically important things any of us can do is to proclaim the name of Jesus to a world lost in the darkness of sin. There is evidence of a growing secular humanism all around us, and we hear all the time that church attendance is diminishing in many places. It seems that Church has become a place for the church. It is becoming a rarity for an unchurched person to walk through the doors of a church, especially unaccompanied by someone from the church. The days of painting the doors red as a welcoming gesture, or leaving the doors open as an invitation to the community are long gone. Many churches keep their doors locked for safety. If a congregation really desires to make an impact for Jesus it will mean reaching out into their community in new ways; in ways that require thinking outside the church box.

This is one of the reasons we began working with Five Two, an organization focused on planting new ministry. While this group does not shy away from planting new churches, it also doesn't limit itself to only planting new churches. They are also focused on starting new ministries that are sustainable, marketable, and have a long range plan. Leadership teams are assembled by the local ministry, and then assessed with a comprehensive battery of questions that help determine viability and potential of starting new ministry.

We currently have several congregations actively involved in this process, and several more waiting to get started. The goal is to plant two new ministries in each region each year for the next five years, so that when the District celebrates the 75th Anniversary we will have a minimum of 50 new ministries begun. The goal isn't as much about numbers as it is about impact for the sake of the Gospel. In my parish life I remember that the one child who came to be baptized as a result of VBS made the whole crazy week well worth it. How many souls can we reach for Jesus? That question should always loom before us.

One area of outreach that has continued to elude us is Hispanic Ministry in the Atlanta area. A call was extended, but was returned, and it has been difficult to build momentum. However, there is a growing need for Hispanic workers throughout our district as many of our communities see a growing population among the Latino community. We are blessed to have some very strong ethnic ministries among our Hispanic, Haitian, and Korean congregations. However, there is much more to do. Currently we are exploring ministry among several Ethiopian population centers. Our campus ministries continue reaching out to students, and we are seeking to strengthen these ministries as well as reach several colleges and universities near some of our congregations. The mission fields remain wide open with many opportunities. May God raise up workers and resources among us to connect them to Jesus!

School Ministries and Youth Ministries, both served by Mr. Mark Brink, continue to shine. While our schools continue to face struggles, we are seeing some amazing things happen in several of our larger schools who have had record attendance. You can read more in the Schools report. We are once again adding DCE's to the district roster, and seeing some tremendous and creative youth ministry being done. The teams that have engineered the High School and Middle School gatherings have done a fantastic job. We need to continually find ways to encourage our youth and help to strengthen them in their faith walk. One of the resolutions before the convention I hope you will support is on recruitment of church workers. This kind of encouragement really needs to begin when they are young!

The Florida-Georgia District sponsors an annual Veterans of the Cross Retreat for retired professional church workers and spouses. This is one of the most joyful events that we are privileged to host. This event gathers folks from all across the District and even from across the United States. It is a time of fellowship and friendship of those who have had a career and served in ministry. They gather around God's Word, sing, and enjoy reflecting on their privilege of having served Jesus. The retreat is a wonderful way for us to honor those who have given so much for the cause of the Gospel. This is one way we try to continue to honor and serve those who have served.

Since the last Convention we have established an Operation Barnabas Task Force that began with Chaplain Mark Schreiber as chair, and now Mr. Chris Hopkins serves as the chair. Several congregations throughout the District have begun active chapters. This is a way for congregations to reach into their communities and honor and serve those who have so graciously and valiantly served us in the Armed Forces and their families. Also at the last convention we commissioned a task force to put together a program to certify non-Lutheran teachers teaching in our Lutheran schools so that they would have a deeper understanding of our doctrine and practice. This is still in process, but getting closer to completion.

As a result of the Pulse shootings in Orlando in 2016 we have several congregations that have received comfort dogs and are actively serving their communities and responding to crisis. It is an amazing thing to see the impact these dogs make wherever they go. What we can learn from the dogs is that they don't discriminate based on color, sexuality or age. They just sense that people are in need and care for them. That's not a bad model for us either!

This past triennium we have remained debt-free. Much of this has been through controlling our spending. We are in the process of eliminating mission grants. You can read more about that in the mission report. We are seeking to be good stewards of all the resources provided to the district, and we are grateful to our mission partners who regularly support the district with their contributions. You make it possible for us to provide things like leadership training, pastors and educator conferences, scholarships for church workers, support of ministries, and consultations. While we have an ever shrinking staff, these are among the most dedicated and hard-working individuals with which I have ever had the pleasure to work. I can't thank Kathy Keene enough for her determination and dedication to my office. The rest of the support staff includes Debbie Arrington, Cindy Hammerstrom, Lynda Voss and Laura Zirbel. Along with the dedicated executive staff, the focus in our office is clear. We are about connecting people to Jesus.

In addition to the district staff, I have greatly appreciated the services provided by those pastors assisting the District in a part-time capacity: Pat O'Brien, who helps me, especially in the area of congregational constitutions and bylaws; Dennis Bartels, who chairs the stewardship advisory committee; Roger Walker, who has chaired the Mission Advisory Council, and Tom Eggebrecht, who has chaired the District Wellness Network. The President's Circle is ongoing and has been a real source of assistance for many during the past triennium. We are blessed with a rich and full partnership with Lutheran Counseling Services, and specifically Rick Armstrong, Megan Miessler and Scott Gress, who have worked with us on any number of levels, serving many of our workers. We continue to explore new opportunities to serve our District through this ministry, including the Leadership at the Halftime Retreat for workers.

As thankful as I am for the staff and ministry partners, I could do none of this without the support of my wife, Edith. She is a dedicated school teacher and spends many hours, like most teachers, preparing and working with her students. In addition to that she has sacrificed many weekends to travel with me to visit congregations. She has welcomed the Board of Directors into our home regularly for meals, has entertained any number of guests, often at a moment's notice, and has always done so with a servant's heart. God has truly blessed my life with her, and I am grateful for the life we share together. God has blessed our lives through our two sons, and their families. Our son, Alex, and his wife, Angie, have blessed us with Noelle and Zac; and our son Tim, and his wife, Megan, have blessed us with Fisher. Grandparenting has become our avocation. We love being with them all as often as we can, which never seems like enough.

As I reflect on the past three years, I am humbled at the support I have received from the many volunteers with whom I have been privileged to serve, and who have well served this District, including: the Board of Directors, the Vice Presidents, the Circuit Visitors, and the variety of folks who serve on the District's Advisory Councils, Task Forces, and Committees, whether through my office, in school ministry, missions and outreach, with youth or in any other number of ways.

We have a district filled with servant leaders, and I am certainly grateful for our shared vision and partnership, which has enabled us to accomplish many things for the sake of Jesus. Please accept my sincere thanks to all who have helped make this last triennium such an awesome time of ministry in the history of the Florida-Georgia District.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are making a difference. We are connecting people to Jesus and growing God's kingdom one soul at a time. We are reaching into ethnic communities, we are strengthening and building new inroads into places we have not had the privilege to serve, and we see the potential for whole new generations of people to be touch by God's Spirit of love and grace. We have so much for which to give thanks to God. He has blessed us so abundantly in so many ways. He has given us so much, beginning with the new life that we have in Jesus through Holy Baptism. As He died for sin, may we die to our sin, so that we can be equipped, empowered and engaged, as people chosen with purpose, abiding in Jesus.

Following this are the additional reports from the staff that will assist you in gaining some perspective of the scope of our work together. We are grateful for your partnership and pray that God will bless our time together working at the 33rd Regular District Convention, celebrating our 70th Anniversary, remembering that we are Chosen with Purpose—abiding in Jesus!

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, President
The Florida-Georgia District, LCMS

33rd Regular Convention of the Florida-Georgia District Minutes

Call to Order

The Convention was called to order by Chairman Walton at 6:58 pm.

Convention Coordinator Report

Rev. David Brighton, the Convention Coordinator, gave a report on the number of delegates, establishing a quorum. There were 199 delegates, 100 Pastor and 99 Lay.

Declaration of Convention

Chairman Walton declared the convention open in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Adoption of the Standing Rules

Chairman Walton called for a motion to adopt the standing rules of the Convention. This was moved from the floor, received a second, and PASSED.

Adoption of Schedule

Chairman Walton called for a motion to adopt the schedule of the convention, with changes to the schedule for Sunday morning as distributed to the convention. This was moved from the floor, received a second, and PASSED.

Nominations Committee

Chairman Walton invited Rev. Jim Guelzow, Chair of the Nominations Committee, forward to give the nominations committee report. Nominations were opened December 22nd, 2017, 180 days before the beginning of the convention. They were closed March 24, 2018, 90 days before the beginning of the convention. Fourteen churches sent in nominations. Rev. Guelzow thanked the Nominations Committee for their work, meeting four times via teleconference.

Rev. Guelzow then explained the process for nominations from the floor, noting that nominations from the floor may only come for the offices of District Secretary, Commissioned Representative to the Board of Directors, and Nominations Committee.

Judge of Elections

Chairman Walton then invited Rev. Ken Green to the stage to explain the voting process. A practice vote was held.

Regional Caucus

At 7:12pm, the delegates broke into their regional caucuses.

President's Report

At 7:45, Rev. Brighton assumed the chair of the convention to allow for the President's Report. Rev. Walton gave a report concerning the District.

Election of District President

Chairman Brighton introduced the candidates for the office of District President.

Rev. Kallesen was brought forth for a prayer before the vote.

Rev. Green led the convention in the election of District President

- Rev. Greg Walton – 86.2% (162 votes)
- Rev. Roberto Rojas, Jr – 13.8% (26 votes)

Rev. Walton reassumed the chair.

Bible Study

Chairman Walton called forward Rev. David Maier for a Bible study on “Life UNDER Christ”.

Ratification and Ranking of Vice Presidents

Chairman Walton called the Judge of Elections, Rev. Ken Green, to the stage for the ratification of Vice Presidents.

Rev. Green introduced those elected for the office of Vice President in Regional Caucuses.

Rev. Kallesen was brought forth for a prayer before the vote.

Rev. Green called for a vote of ratification on the following vice presidents:

- Region 1 – Rev. David Brighton
- Region 2 – Rev. James Rockey
- Region 3 – Rev. Charles Reich
- Region 4 – Rev. Jon Zehnder
- Region 5 – Rev. Stephen Carretto

The Vice Presidents were ratified by a vote of acclamation.

Rev. Green moved for a ranking vote for the Vice Presidents according to Bylaw D2.4. The ranking was as follows:

- First VP – Rev. Brighton – 67.4% (118 votes)
- Second VP – Rev. Zehnder - 57.1% (110 votes)
- Third VP – Rev. Rockey – 27.4% (48 votes)
- Fourth VP – Rev. Carretto – 26.9% (47 votes)
- Fifth VP – Rev. Reich 16.6% (29 votes)

Doulos tou Christou – Mr. David Weidner, Commissioned Minister of Religion

Chairman Walton introduced the Doulos tou Christou award, a District award given to honor those who have given special service to the District.

Chairman Walton then brought forth Mr. David Weidner to accept the Doulos tou Christou award from the District.

Convention Essay 1

Chairman Walton invited Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer to deliver the first convention essay.

70th Anniversary

Chairman Walton called forth Mr. Rich Robertson, the former CEO of the ~~Lutheran Church Missouri Synod~~ Lutheran Church Extension Fund, who will be serving on the 70th Anniversary Committee of the District. A part of the 70th anniversary celebration is an appeal to strengthen the Mission Loan Fund into the future.

Closing

Business was closed with closing prayer by Rev. Douglas Kallesen at 9:35pm.

June 23, 2018

Convention Opening

The convention was opened at 8:02am.

Nominations Committee

Chairman Walton invited Rev. David Brighton to give an update on the voting delegates and gave a reminder about Floor Nominations.

Opening Devotions

Chairman Walton called Rev. Kallesen to lead the Convention in a devotion

Call to Order

The Convention was called to order at 8:12am

Convention Coordinator Report

Rev. David Brighton, the Convention Coordinator, gave a report on the updated number of delegates. There were 220 delegates, 108 Pastors and 112 Lay.

Regional Lay Ratification

Chairman Walton called forth Judge of Elections, Rev. Ken Green, and the Convention Chaplain, Rev. Doug Kallesen.

Rev. Kallesen prayed.

Rev. Green moved for the ratification of the Lay Representatives to the Board of Directors from the Regional Caucuses.

Region 1

- Mrs. Karen Cerny
- Mr. Jay Wendland

Region 2

- Mr. Don Kaufmann
- Ms. Lois Schaefer

Region 3

- Mrs. Katie Abercrombie
- Mrs. Sheryl DeWitt

Region 4

- Ms. Evita Gonzalez
- Mr. Daniel Najjar

Region 5

- Mr. Stephen Bradshaw
- Mr. Sam Luddington

Rev. Green moved the ratification of the elections of the Lay Representatives to the Board of Directors, seconded. The Lay Representatives to the Board of Directors were ratified by the Convention.

- Favor: 99.4% (178 votes)
- Against: 0.6% (1 vote)

Bible Study

Chairman Walton called Dr. Maier to the stage in order to deliver the second Bible study.

Missions and Outreach

Chairman Walton called forth Rev. Steve Wipperman to present the Resolutions from Floor Committee 1 (Missions and Outreach).

Rev. Steve Wipperman called forward the members of Floor Committee 1, Mr. John List, Mr. Jeff Richards, Mr. Don Kaufman, Rev. Frank Marshall, and Ms. Lois Shaefer.

Rev. Steve Wipperman read and moved Resolution 1.2 (Commitment to Mission Starts in the FLGA District). Second, discussion, PASS.

- Favor 98.3% (176 votes)
- Against 1.7% (3 votes)

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 1.2- 2018
Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach**

COMMITMENT TO MISSION STARTS IN THE FLGA DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Jesus has called all of His chosen disciples to abide in Him and bear fruit that will last (John 15:5; 8:16); and

WHEREAS, Jesus tells us the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few so we are to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest (Matt. 9:37-38); and

WHEREAS, Jesus calls us to go and make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19) referring to all His baptized, both clergy and laity alike; and

WHEREAS, We continue to see a decline in church attendance across our nation at alarming rates, and

WHEREAS, Statistics show that millennials are becoming less active and inclined not to attend worship services regularly; and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District Circuit Visitors and Board of Directors were told that within the next ten years, the LCMS can expect a loss of 500,000 baptized members; and

WHEREAS, Jesus promised that the gates of Hell would not prevail against His Church (Matt. 16:18), and

WHEREAS, God has saved people to serve (Eph. 2:10), and gifted all of His baptized so they are able to serve (1 Peter 4:10); and

WHEREAS, God desires all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4), and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District Board of Directors has set Leadership and Outreach as critical ministry targets, with a dedicated desire to raise up strong, healthy leaders and focus on outreach opportunities and resources; and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District hearing the call to connect people to Jesus seeks to equip, empower, and engage new leaders from among our clergy and laity with a focus on reaching out to

communities with the life-saving good news of forgiveness and salvation that comes alone through the grace of Jesus; and

WHEREAS, God has blessed the Florida-Georgia District with a mission heart and attitude for the past 70 years; and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District, which covers one third of the Eastern Seaboard, has a diversity of culture and ethnic opportunities that differ from one end to the other so that it requires unique solutions to reach into specific communities and share the love of Jesus.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District renew its commitment to raising up healthy, visionary leaders who are disciples grounded in the Word of God, and be it further

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District continue to encourage congregations to recognize and act on the call of Jesus to reach their communities with the hope that we have with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15), and be it further

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District commit to raising up two new ministries in each of the five regions each year for the next five years, resulting in fifty new ministry starts, as we celebrate God's blessings and head toward the 75th Anniversary of the Florida-Georgia District in 2023, and be it finally

Resolved, That congregations, circuits and regions work together to engage in the Master's business for the sake of the Gospel so that many are connected to Jesus.

Rev. Steve Wipperman invited Mr. John List who read Resolution 1.1, (To Support the District's Work of Campus Ministry). Rev. Wipperman moved on behalf of the floor committee. Second, PASS.

- Favor 98.9% (176 votes)
- Against 1.1% (2 votes)

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 1.1 - 2018
Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach**

TO SUPPORT THE DISTRICT'S WORK OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

WHEREAS, The State University System of Florida reported 341,000 students enrolled in state institutions of higher learning and the State University System of Georgia reported 321,000 students enrolled in state institutions of higher learning for a combined total of 662,000 college students enrolled in state institutions within the geographical boundaries of the Florida Georgia District, not including the many students enrolled in private institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, Our Lord encourages His disciples to "look, I tell you, lift up your eyes and see that the fields are white for harvest," (John 4); and

WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District has had a rich history of supporting missions to the colleges and universities within the District beginning with work at the University of Florida in 1931 and continuing forward with campus ministry work at no fewer than 10 colleges and universities throughout the District; and

WHEREAS, The colleges and universities within the District draw from the neighborhoods that are served by District churches and many of the graduates of these colleges and universities are sent into neighborhoods served by District churches for the beginnings of their careers; and
 WHEREAS, The task of reaching new students with the Gospel has become challenging in new ways as fewer students are arriving at college having self-identified with the Christian faith or having been shaped by Christian communities; and
 WHEREAS, Many campuses within the geographical boundaries are currently unserved or underserved by Gospel-oriented ministries;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (hereafter "District") affirm the importance of a vital outreach to students endeavoring in the vocations of higher education; and be it further

Resolved, That the District would allocate appropriate resources to the assessment of opportunities to connect with students on university campuses in new ways; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District would provide leadership for this vital mission to encourage existing campus ministry efforts and facilitate future outreach.

Rev. Steve Wipperman invited Ms. Lois Schaefer who moved Resolution 1.3 (To Support the Work of Mission Haiti), Rev. Wipperman moved on behalf of the floor committee. Second, PASS

- Favor 97.1% (168 votes)
- Against 2.9% (5 votes)

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
 Florida-Georgia District
 June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 1.3- 2018
 Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach**

TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF MISSION: HAITI

WHEREAS, Holy Scripture records the Great Commission: "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age: '" (Matthew 28:18-20 ESV); and

WHEREAS, The people of Haiti are among "all nations"; and

WHEREAS, Mission: Haiti has, since its inception in 1999, upheld Scripture as the rule and norm for faith and life and maintained an unqualified subscription to the Lutheran Confessions while serving the spiritual, educational, vocational, material and other needs of the people of Haiti; and

WHEREAS, Mission: Haiti has been designated the official sponsoring and organizing body for mission trips in cooperation with the ELCH; and

WHEREAS, Mission: Haiti is expanding its services in Haiti, including: sponsoring visiting LCMS pastors who educate future Haitian Lutheran pastors, instructing teachers, planting churches, providing VBS programs in outlying villages, drilling water wells, constructing schools and orphanages, providing medical clinics, providing livestock to families, and more; and

WHEREAS, Mission-Haiti is firmly committed to only supporting self-sufficiency projects that protect the dignity of Haitians and do not create dependency on "handouts"; and

WHEREAS, The proclamation of the Gospel by Mission-Haiti personnel has lead, directly or indirectly, hundreds of Haitians out of the darkness of Voodoo into the marvelous light of Jesus;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") reaffirm its partnership with Mission: Haiti to provide material, financial, logistical and other types of assistance; and be it further

Resolved, That individual congregations of the District be encouraged to pray for Mission-Haiti and provide material, financial and other types of assistance; and be it further

Resolved, That pastors and lay people be encouraged to consider participating in Mission-Haiti mission trips, to spread the Gospel and render care in Haiti; and be it finally

Resolved, That individuals and groups throughout the District be encouraged to pray for the people of Haiti.

Rev. Steve Wipperman invited Rev. Frank Marshall who read moved Resolution 1.4 (To Support Caring Ministries), Rev. Wipperman moved on behalf of the floor committee. Second, PASS.

- Favor - 98.3% (173 votes)
- Against - 1.7% (3 votes)

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 1.4- 2018
Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach**

TO SUPPORT CARING MINISTRIES

WHEREAS, God has richly blessed thousands of children and families in Florida and Georgia through the faithful ministries of the Lutheran Services Florida; Lutheran Services of Georgia; Lutheran Services of North Florida; Redeeming Life Maternity Home; and Stepping Stones Ministries; and

WHEREAS, God has richly blessed congregations of the Florida-Georgia District as they have reached out to their neighbors in need with food, clothes, shelter, care, counseling and compassion; and

WHEREAS, The Lord Jesus wants us to care for others;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That we give thanks to God for faithful workers who carry out these important ministries; and be it further

Resolved, That congregations of the District encourage their members to volunteer in these caring ministries; and be it finally

Resolved, That we continue to implore the leading of the Holy Spirit so that our neighbors in need might know the compassion of Christ through the compassionate acts for individuals, congregations, and schools of the Florida-Georgia District.

Rev. Steve Wipperman announced that the work of Floor Committee 1 had been concluded. Floor Committee 1 was thanked for their work and dismissed.

Ministries in the District

Chairman Walton called forth the leaders of several ministries currently operating in the District.

- Five Two – Rev. Oscar Benavides
- LCMS Hispanic National Convention – Rev. Adolfo Borges
- Lutheran Services Florida – Mr. Phil Hubbell
- Lutheran Services Georgia – Ms. Melanie Johnson
- Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, Florida-Georgia District – Ms. Trish Aamoth
- Lutheran Hour Ministries – Mr. Bruce Sutherland
- The Jesus Film Project – Mr. Sam Osterloh
- Grace Place Wellness – Mr. Randy Fauser

Doulos tou Christou – Mr. Kurt Bickel, Commissioned Minister of Religion

Chairman Walton invited Mr. Mark Brink, the School and Youth Ministry Executive of the District, forward to present the Doulos tou Christou award to Mr. Kurt Bickel.

Ministries in the District

Chairman Walton called forth the leaders of several ministries currently operating in the District.

- Mission Haiti – Ms. Helen Roenfeldt
- Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries – Ms. Sheryl DeWitt
- LISA/Garuna Foundation – Rev. Dr. Gerhard “Mike” Michael

School and Youth Ministry

Chairman Walton called on Mr. Brink to give a report on the state of School and Youth Ministry of the District.

Ministry and Leadership

Chairman Walton called forth Rev. David Brighton and Floor Committee 2 to present the Resolutions from Floor Committee 2 (Ministry and Leadership).

Rev. David Brighton called forward the members of Floor Committee 2, Ms. Tamie Worthington, Mr. Mark Brink, and Ms. Karen Smith.

Ms. Tamie Worthington read and moved Resolution 2.1 (To Declare April 18, 2021 as “Here I Stand” Sunday” and encourage Multi Congregation Celebrations) on behalf of the floor committee, and was PASSED.

Motion

- Favor - 96.4% (162 votes)
- Against - 3.6% (6 votes)

To the 33rd Regular Convention

Florida-Georgia District

June 22 -24, 2018

Resolution: 2.1- 2018

Floor Committee: Ministry and Leadership

**TO DECLARE APRIL 18TH, 2021 AS “HERE I STAND” SUNDAY AND ENCOURAGE MULTI-
CONGREGATION CELEBRATIONS**

WHEREAS, We are now in the midst of several important half-millennium anniversary dates of important events regarding the Protestant Reformation; and

WHEREAS, The first such event, the 500th anniversary of the nailing of the 95 Theses was a tremendous success, with many congregations of the District and Synod gathering together for mass worship celebrations; and

WHEREAS, Scripture gives us encouragement with these words: "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful."; and

WHEREAS, Martin Luther made his "HERE I STAND" proclamation at the Diet of Worms before the emperor and leading Roman church officials on April 18th, 1521; and

WHEREAS, April 18th, 2021 is a Sunday and falls two weeks after the celebration of Easter that year;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That April 18th, 2021 be declared "HERE I STAND" Sunday throughout our District, its circuits and congregations; and be it further

Resolved, That these entities be encouraged to gather for worship celebrations to commemorate the event; and be it further

Resolved, That a district-wide thank-offering be coordinated and collected for that day, to be used toward the continued proclamation of the Gospel throughout Florida and Georgia; and be it further

Resolved, That our churches and people be encouraged to spend time in prayer, asking the Lord to continue to bless the proclamation of the Gospel; and be it finally

Resolved, That this District gathered in convention, memorialize the Synod, encouraging them to do the same church-wide.

Ms. Karen Smith read and moved Resolution 2.2 (To Encourage Leadership Training for Laypersons in the FLGA District) on behalf of the floor committee, and was PASSED.

Motion

- Favor - 97.6 % (165 votes)
- Against - 2.4% (4 votes)

- **To the 33rd Regular Convention** **Resolution: 2.2- 2018**
- **Florida-Georgia District** **Floor Committee: Ministry and Leadership**
- **June 22 -24, 2018**
- **TO ENCOURAGE LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR LAYPERSONS IN THE FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT**
- WHEREAS, "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members of one another," (Romans 12:5); and
- WHEREAS, Lutheran theology has always viewed all vocations as important and has always affirmed the importance of lay involvement and leadership, affirming the priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:9); and

-
- WHEREAS, All believers, including laypersons serve the Church in the name of Christ, and connect others to Jesus, and should therefore be encouraged, equipped, and engaged to do so; and
 - WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District has specific resources and connections with people who would be able to train its lay people in a meaningful way, which has already been demonstrated through programs such as the President's Equip Conference, the Stewardship Summit, and the Emergent Leaders training; and
 - WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District has the opportunity to stand as witness to the rest of our Synod and show the great opportunity found in developing robust training for laypersons within the congregations of the District;
 - Therefore be it
 - *Resolved*, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") affirm the importance of leadership training opportunities for laypersons; and be it further
 - *Resolved*, That the District allocate necessary resources to train and network lay leaders throughout the District; and be it finally
 - *Resolved*, That at least one leadership training opportunity for lay persons be offered to the District in every year of the upcoming triennium.
-

Rev. David Brighton read and moved Resolution 2.4 (To Encourage Recruitment of Professional Church Workers) on behalf of the floor committee, and was PASSED.

Motion

- Favor - 97.1% (167 votes)
- Against - 2.9% (5 votes)

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 2.4- 2018
Floor Committee: Ministry and Leadership**

TO ENCOURAGE RECRUITMENT OF PROFESSIONAL CHURCH WORKERS

WHEREAS, Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38); and

WHEREAS, Such instruction encourages us not only to pray for more workers, but also to recruit and train those who are gifted for leadership positions in the Church, to carry out its part in God's mission to the world; and

WHEREAS, The number of professional church workers in our Synod, Ordained and Commissioned, is in a precipitous decline, limiting the proclamation of the Gospel;

Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") be directed to appoint a Task Force that will investigate best practices for recruitment and make recommendations for implementation of same to the District President; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District President report on the progress of implementation efforts to the 2021 District Convention.

Rev. Brighton announced that the work of Floor Committee had been concluded. Floor Committee 2 were thanked for their work and dismissed.

[Doulos tou Christou – Mr. Dennis Cerny, Lay Person](#)

Chairman Walton then brought forth Mr. Dennis Cerny to accept the Doulos tou Christou award from the District.

[Lunch](#)

The morning session was ended with prayer by Chairman Walton at 11:41am.

[Return to Session](#)

Business resumed at 12:49pm.

The Convention Coordinator gave the convention report of 232 delegates, 113 Pastor, 119 Lay.

[Approval of Friday Minutes](#)

The Minutes from June 22 were read and approved by acclamation with the following change to the 70th Anniversary report: “Chairman Walton called forth Mr. Rich Robertson, the former CEO of the ~~Lutheran Church Missouri Synod~~ Lutheran Church Extension Fund, who will be serving on the 70th Anniversary Committee of the District.”

[Concordia Plan Services](#)

Chairman Walton invited Mr. Jim Sanft of Concordia Plan Services for a presentation. Mr. Sanft gave a presentation about the work of Concordia Plan Services.

[Concordia Universities](#)

Chairman Walton invited Ms. Gretchen Jameson of Concordia University Wisconsin/Ann Arbor and Rev. Dr. John Nunes and Dr. Sherry Frasier of Concordia New York for presentations about their respective universities. Ms. Frazier and Ms. Jameson gave a presentation about the work of their Universities.

[Conferring Honorary Doctorate to President Walton](#)

In addition to the report from Concordia-New York. Representatives of the Board of Regent for Concordia NY, Rev. Christopher Esget, Mr. Rich Robertson, Rev. Dr. John Nunes, and Dr. Sherry Frasier, honored Chairman Walton with an honorary doctorate of humane letters.

[Regional Circuit Visitors](#)

Rev. Dr. Walton called forth Judge of Elections, Rev. Ken Green, and the Convention Chaplain, Rev. Doug Kallesen.

Rev. Kallesen prayed before the ratification vote.

Rev. Green moved for the ratification of the Circuit Visitors from the Circuit Forums held in the Fall of 2017.

Circuit 1 Northeast Georgia The Rev. Zachary Hoffman

Circuit 2 Atlanta North The Rev. Jeffrey Jordan

Circuit 3 Atlanta South The Rev. George Murdaugh

Circuit 4 East Central Georgia The Rev. John Lehenbauer

Circuit 5 Tallahassee The Rev. Frank Kinast

Circuit 6 First Coast The Rev. Dana A. Brones

Circuit 7 North Central Florida The Rev. Alan Struckmeyer

Circuit 8 Space Coast The Rev. Bruce Alberts

Circuit 9 Orlando East The Rev. Ken Green

Circuit 10 Orlando West The Rev. Marc Kappel

Circuit 11 Winter Haven The Rev. Dean Pfeffer

Circuit 12 Heartland The Rev. Richard Norris

Circuit 13 Suncoast The Rev. Dr. David Brockhoff

Circuit 14 St. Petersburg The Rev. Philip Rigdon

Circuit 15 Tampa The Rev. Gilbert Kuehn

Circuit 16 Sarasota The Rev. Rossetter Leavitt

Circuit 17 Southwest The Rev. Richard Browning

Circuit 18 Treasure Coast The Rev. Mark Stillman

Circuit 19 South Palm Beach The Rev. Dr. Dennis Glick

Circuit 20 Gold Coast The Rev. Timothy Hartner

Circuit 21 Monroe-Miami-Dade The Rev. Tony Mandile

Rev. Green moved the ratification of the elections of Circuit Visitors, seconded. The Circuit Visitors were ratified by the Convention.

Motion

- Favor 99.4 % (166 votes)
- Against 0.6 % (1 vote)

The Convention rose in singing the Common Doxology in thanks for the Circuit Visitors who are ceasing service with this election.

Ministries in the District

Rev. Dr. Walton called forth the leaders of several ministries currently operating in the District.

- Stepping Stone Ministries – Rev. Song
- Florida Georgia Operation Barnabas Task Force – Mr. Chris Hopkins
- Amigos En Cristo – Rev. Robert Selle

Administration and Theology

Rev. Dr. Walton called forth Rev. Jon Zehnder to present the Resolutions from Floor Committee 3 (Administration and Theology).

Rev. Zehnder called forward the members of Floor Committee 3, Rev. Dr. Brian Kneser, Ms. Lois Ford, Mr. Rusty Huseman, and Rev. Jay Winters.

Rev. Dr. Kneser read and moved Resolution 3.1 (To Ensure Timely and Transparent Financial Reporting in the Synod) on behalf of the floor committee, discussion, PASS.

- Favor 98.8 % (161 votes)
- Against 1.2 % (2 votes)

To the 33rd Regular Convention

Florida-Georgia District

June 22 -24, 2018

Resolution: 3.1- 2018

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

TO ENSURE TIMELY AND TRANSPARENT FINANCIAL REPORTING IN THE SYNOD

WHEREAS, Biblical stewardship requires us to be accountable for the gifts that God has entrusted to His people, (Matthew 25:14ff, Luke 12:48; 1 Corinthians 4:2) (Matthew 25:14 ff.); and

WHEREAS, The Synod has historically recognized its responsibility of accountability and faithfulness in the handling of the finances entrusted to it by its members, as is evidenced by Synod Bylaws and Resolutions (LCMS Bylaw 1.5-4, 2010 Resolution 4-03, 2010 Convention Proceedings page 120); and

WHEREAS, The members of the Synod expressed even further the need for full transparency in all areas of financial disclosure of all funding, including special appeals by adopting 2016 convention **RESOLUTION 9-04A, "To Improve Disclosures Related to Financial Gifts from God's Stewards for Special Appeals," (2016 Convention Proceedings, p. 189)** which stated in part,

WHEREAS, That the financial offices of corporate Synod continue to recognize the desire of donors and members of the Synod to improve processes of reporting and work to provide clear, timely, and transparent accounting for all funding and special appeals, so that the Body of Christ may experience the joy of Gospel-centered mission and ministry beyond the local context or community."

WHEREAS, There is a desire among the members of the FLGA District for more transparency and regularity in reporting of the financial position of the Synod especially in regard to special appeals for disaster relief, which is of the utmost importance to the members and constituencies of the FLGA District who have a vested interest in the care of those impacted by disasters; and

WHEREAS, The people of God motivated by the Gospel will respond through better, open, and honest communication about the great things God is able to accomplish for His Kingdom when we work together.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod in convention direct the Chief Financial Officer to report quarterly in the Synod's official publications the financial position of the Synod in a format easily understood by persons unfamiliar with financial terminology according to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP); and be it further

Resolved, That these quarterly reports include information about the regular Synod budget as well as reporting on special appeals and be it finally

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District in convention memorialize the Synod in convention with this
overture.

Ms. Lois Ford read and Rev. Zehnder moved Resolution 3.6-2018 (To Change the Requirements for Electoral Circuit) on behalf of the floor committee, discussion, PASS.

- Favor 91.3 % (147 votes)
- Against 8.7 % (14 votes)

To the 33rd Regular Convention

Resolution: 3.6- 2018

Florida-Georgia District

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

June 22 -24, 2018

TO CHANGE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTORAL CIRCUIT

WHEREAS, The current requirement for an electoral circuit is 1500 communicant members AND 7 congregations in the circuit; and

WHEREAS, In light of the declining number of congregations as well as communicant members throughout the Synod. (District Visitation Report 2017-2019); and

WHEREAS, Current requirements for an electoral circuit are difficult to achieve as is evidenced by the growing number of exceptional circuit requests; and

WHEREAS, These requirements give undo priority to large congregations and circuits while disenfranchising smaller congregations and circuits,

Therefore be it

Resolved, That each of the District Presidents be given the authority to grant exceptional circuit status to not more than 20% of the established circuits as he may see fit based on the unique circumstances of the circuit and district, and be it finally

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District in convention memorialize the Synod in convention with this overture.

Rev. Zehnder read and moved Resolution 3.7-2018 (To Reestablish the District President as Supervisor of Individual Members of Synod) on behalf of the floor committee, discussion, PASS.

- Favor 92.8 % (154 votes)
- Against 7.2% (12 votes)

To the 33rd Regular Convention

Resolution: 3.7- 2018

(replaces O3.2; O3.3; O3.4)

Florida-Georgia District

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

June 22 – 24, 2018

TO REESTABLISH THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT AS SUPERVISOR OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF SYNOD

WHEREAS, At the 2016 Convention of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, in its Resolution 12-14

[Regarding the Right of an Accuser to Appel when a District President or President of the Synod

Fails to Act or Declines to Suspend] according to Bylaw 7.1.2, deferred its rightful legislative authority regarding the development of ecclesiastical supervision bylaws with respect to and inclusion of the President of the Synod giving the decision to the Synod's Board of Directors rather than to the legislative assembly; and

WHEREAS, The decision of the Board of Directors, as well as the most recent opinion of the Commission of Constitutional Matters (CCM) in this matter (CCM Op. 16-2791) diverges from historic opinions of CCM (Op 15.2750, 13-2669, 10-2581, 03-2354, 03-2338), and of historical understandings of the role of the Synod President in the ecclesiastical supervision of individual members of Synod (Creation of Districts - Synod Convention 1852, Giving the District President the Obligation to Visit Congregations of their Districts - Synod Convention 1864, Appointing the President of Synod, Suspension and Appels Process - Synod Convention 1890), and the correspondence of Synod Presidents such as C.F.W. Walther and H.C. Schwann; and

WHEREAS, This decision has caused undue confusion around the procedures concerning the serious matters of ecclesiastical supervision, leaving Districts, District Presidents, and individual members of Synod unsure of how to proceed in matters that require swift, contextual, and Biblical understanding; and

WHEREAS, This decision lengthens the duration of the reconciliation process and final action in cases that require timely resolution.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") memorialize Synod that CCM Opinion 16.2791 be nullified and sent for review with clear reference to the historical precedent of Synod's practices and rules since its inception; and be it further

Resolved, That the District memorialize Synod that the decision of the Board of Directors concerning 12-14, be nullified and sent for review; and be it further

Resolved, That the District memorialize Synod with proposed constitutional and bylaw changes that would seek to clarify and return to Synod's historic position; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District pray for peace and harmony within the District and Synod, providing a witness to God's powerful work of reconciliation in our lives.

Rev. Zehnder read and moved Omnibus Resolution C on behalf of the floor committee, discussion, PASS.

- Favor 95.1% (154 votes)
- Against 4.9 % (8 votes)

To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 – 24, 2018

Omnibus Resolution C
Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

WHEREAS, The Administration and Theology Floor Committee has considered all overtures assigned to it and has concluded, for various reasons, that certain overtures should be declined;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the following overtures be respectfully declined for the reasons given:

Overture	Title	Reason
O2.3	To Extend Term Limits	Impractical, material error
O3.2	To Overrule Board of Directors' May 2017 Resolution 12-14, re Bylaw 7.1.2	See Resolution 03.7
O3.3	To Amend LCMS Constitution Article XI	See Resolution 03.7
O3.4	To Overturn CCM Opinion 16-2791, 16-2793, 16-2794, & 17-2828	See Resolution 03.7

Rev. Zehnder called forth Rev. Jay Winters to present Resolution 3.8 (To Revise the Charter and Bylaws of the District). He reviewed the changes put forth. Mr. Rusty Huseman read and moved Resolution 3.8 on behalf of the floor committee. The motion was PASSED with the following amendment to Bylaw D2.24.i:

- Amendment – remove the statement “To indemnify members of the Board of Directors. ~~in accordance with the policies set forth in the board policy manual.~~” from D2.24.i
 - Amendment PASSED by acclamation

Motion

- Favor 94.8% (146 votes)
- Against 5.2% (8 votes)

To the 33rd Regular Convention

Resolution: 3.8- 2018

Florida-Georgia District

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

June 22 – 24, 2018

TO REVISE THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, The Charter and Bylaws of the Florida Georgia District are to reflect the Constitution of Synod and its Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, Several changes to the Constitution of Synod and its Bylaws have resulted in inconsistencies between these documents; and

WHEREAS, Outside of these inconsistencies, other minor problems are found in the FLGA Charter and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, Due to the timely nature of how Districts are to change their charter and bylaws, the District was unable to approve alterations at the 2015 Convention; and

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") amend its Charter to be in agreement with that of Synod; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District amend its Bylaws to be in agreement with Synod.

Rev. Zehnder announced that the work of Floor Committee 3 had been concluded. Floor Committee 3 was thanked for their work and dismissed.

THE CHARTER AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

Article I

The name of this corporation shall be The Florida-Georgia District of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod (hereinafter referred to as "District").

The principal business office of this corporation shall be located in Orlando, State of Florida.

Article II

The mission of this District is:

- a. To proclaim the Gospel throughout the District, and specifically to establish and maintain missions, educational, and charitable work within the District.
- b. To unite in a corporate body the congregations holding membership in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (also referred to herein as "Synod"), by and through The Florida-Georgia District of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod and to support the Synod's work of Gospel proclamation throughout the world.
- c. Receive, acquire, hold, manage, and control real and personal property of whatever description and such other property as may hereafter be acquired.
- d. This corporation shall have power and authority in its corporate name to contract, sue; to use a corporate seal; to have, receive, hold, purchase, convey, mortgage, and lease property, both real and personal; and to make and establish laws, rules, and regulations for its management and support as shall be necessary and proper.

Article III

Membership in this District is held and may be acquired by congregations, ministers of religion—ordained, and ministers of religion—commissioned, as defined by the Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, who confess and accept the confessional basis of Article II of the Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who have been received into the District at the time of joining the Synod, who have been transferred from another District, or who have been assigned to the District by the Synod.

Article IV

The term for which this corporation is to exist is perpetual.

Article V

Section 1

The affairs of the corporation are to be managed by the following officers, to wit:

- A President
- A First Vice-President
- A Second Vice-President
- A Third Vice-President
- A Fourth vice-President
- A Fifth Vice-President
- A Secretary
- A Treasurer

And such other officers as the Bylaws may provide.

Section 2

All officers and members of the Board of Directors shall be members of a member congregation of the District and when appropriate residents of appropriate regions during the course of their tenure. The Board of Directors shall consist of the following:

- a. Elected at large from the roster of the District:
 - (i) the President;
 - (ii) the Secretary; and
 - (iii) three (3) ministers of religion, commissioned, who are members of the Synod. District
- b. Selected on a regional basis and elected by ratification by the District Convention:
 - (i) five (5) Vice-Presidents who are ministers of religion-ordained .
 - (ii) Ten (10) lay persons who shall serve as representatives of the region they represent within the District.
- c. Appointed by the Board of Directors, a Treasurer who shall be a layperson with knowledge and experience in matters relating to corporate finance.

Section 3

The officers and the Board of Directors shall be elected at a regular meeting of the District by the delegates constituting the same as provided for in the bylaws, with the exception that the Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at its next regular meeting following the election meeting of the District. All officers shall hold their respective offices for a term of three (3) years, and shall assume office at the time specified in the bylaws.

Section 4

Whenever an officer or director shall cease to be a member of a member congregation of the District, or shall cease to reside within the region he or she represents, he or she shall forthwith cease to be an officer or a director of this corporation.

Article VI

The Bylaws of this Corporation are to be made, altered, or rescinded by the members of the District in its District Convention, provided the same have been reviewed and approved by the Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters, have been found to be consistent with the then existing Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and are not inconsistent with this Charter, or with the laws of the land.

Article VII

The voting power of this corporation shall be exercised by the accredited pastoral and lay delegates of the congregations constituting its membership, each congregation being entitled to one (1) pastoral and one (1) lay vote. Parishes in which two (2) or more congregations are served by the same pastor shall be restricted to one (1) lay vote and one (1) pastoral vote.

Article VIII

Section 1

The Board of Directors shall have power to buy, sell, lease, mortgage, hypothecate property, whether movable or immovable, borrow, issue bonds, notes, and pledges of all kinds, and generally to manage and control the property and the secular and business affairs of this District, and shall do all things necessary to promote the objects and purposes of this Corporation as set forth in Article II.

Section 2

Replacements for vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by Board appointment at its next regular meeting or at a special meeting held for that purpose.

Section 3

A majority of the members of the board, each of whom must be in attendance at the meeting, shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

Section 4

All citations or any other legal process shall be served on the Registered Agent of this corporation, or, in his/her/its absence, upon the President of the District.

Article IX

This Corporation shall meet triennially in the year prior to the regular convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. In cases of urgent necessity, the District President is empowered to convene special sessions of the District. In that event; he must previously have obtained consent of at least a majority of the voting members of the District, after having informed them and the President of the Synod of the purpose of the intended special session.

Article X

All provisions of these Articles and Bylaws adopted thereto are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in convention and to the laws of Florida and Georgia when applicable.

Article XI

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended at any regular or special meeting of this Corporation, provided such amendment, or amendments, are not inconsistent with Article II or Article III of this charter, or with the laws of the state of Florida, or with the then existing Constitution, Bylaws and resolutions of the Synod, and provided such amendment, or amendments, are approved by a majority vote of the members present at such meeting, and provided further that a copy of the proposed amendment, or amendments, shall have been forwarded previously to the Commission on Constitutional Matters of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for their review and approval, and to all congregations constituting the membership of the District at least sixty (60) days prior to such meeting. Such amendments become effective within sixty (60) days unless more than one-third of the congregations of the District send written dissent to the Secretary of the District. Should this occur, the matter is referred to the Board of Directors to determine that the provisions of this article (Article X) have been met and if so, the amendment will become effective no later than 120 days from its passage at the convention.

Article XII

In the event this corporation is dissolved or its existence otherwise terminates or is terminated, after the payment of the debts of the corporation, all right, title, and interest in and to its property, whether tangible or intangible and whether real or personal, shall thereupon automatically vest in or be transferred to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a Missouri Corporation, or its successor, and this corporation covenants and agrees to execute and deliver to the Synod such documents and instruments and to take such other and further actions as the Synod may deem reasonably necessary or desirable, in order to evidence and give full effect to the foregoing.

If, however, on the date of such proposed dissolution, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a Missouri Corporation, or its successor, is no longer in existence, the assets of the Corporation may distributed to

any other Section 501(C)(3) organization as designated by the Board of Directors.

BYLAWS TO THE CHARTER OF THE FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD, INC.

PREAMBLE

The Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, though an independent corporation under the laws of Florida, adopts and holds as its own the Constitution of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod. It shall do all in its power to promote the Synod's aims and purposes, and shall be subject to all applicable general rules and regulations of the Synod. For the more efficient execution of its own local affairs, the District adopts the following rules and regulations as Bylaws to its legal Charter:

VISION STATEMENT

The Mission of The Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod grows out of God's merciful mission to a sinful and hurting world. This mission centers on Jesus, the crucified and risen Christ, whose ministry continues among us to bring life and healing to the world today. The Holy Spirit, who creates and sustains one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church of Christ, seeks to guide all that this Church does in His name to the glory of God the Father.

Within this fellowship, Christians are called to love each other with the love of Christ and to work together in a trust that is established by His Grace. Called by His Spirit into this fellowship, all of God's people are sent back into the world to share the Good News of God's redeeming love and grace for all people.

As individual congregations, the Body of Christ in our various locales, we recognize that by working together we can assist one another in love and trust to accomplish more effectively this mission and ministry of the whole Church. Therefore, we joyfully and freely commit ourselves to the following Bylaws and we hold ourselves accountable to the Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, a corporate servant structure, whose purpose is to serve, assist, and encourage congregations, church workers, and leaders, expanding God's mission and ministry.

Since God's mission and ministry occur through local congregations, and it is our desire that every congregation be a church in mission; and every man and woman a missionary, all working together under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, empowered by His Gospel, to share his Love. Therefore the Vision of the Florida-Georgia District is: Every member. . . Equipped, Empowered, Engaged. . . Connecting People to Jesus!

D1.01 VOTING DELEGATES

Pastors and lay delegates of congregations holding voting membership, as specified in Article VII of the Charter, shall be voting delegates. The lay delegates shall be District representatives to their respective congregations between conventions.

D1.02 ADVISORY DELEGATES

The following ministers of religion, ordained or commissioned, who hold membership in the Synod through the District shall be regarded as advisory members with full freedom of speech in District Conventions and may be called up to serve in an elected or appointed capacity by the District:

- a. Ministers of religion - ordained whose congregations do not hold membership in the Synod (i.e. mission congregations);
- b. Ministers of religion-ordained, not in charge of congregations (i.e. retired pastors, Specific Ministry Pastors);
- c. Ministers of religion-commissioned Ministers of religion – ordained who are on the roster of the District but are not voting delegates of congregations.
- d. Candidates for the ministry of religion, either ordained or commissioned.

D1.04 NON-VOTING CONGREGATIONS

Non-voting congregations are encouraged to send representatives to the District convention and to become members of the Synod. Such representatives may serve as advisory delegates if applicable or may be given the privilege of the floor at the discretion of the presiding officers. Lay representatives of non-voting congregations may not vote or serve on any committee.

D1.05 DELEGATES TO SYNODICAL CONVENTIONS

- a. Each electoral circuit of member congregations shall elect one (1) pastoral and one (1) lay delegate.
- b. One advisory delegate shall be elected for every 60 advisory ordained and specific ministry pastors, and one (1) advisory delegate shall be elected for every 60 commissioned ministers. (Synod Bylaw 3.1.3.1) Those individuals who are eligible to serve as advisory representatives under Synod Bylaw 3.1.4, are not to be included in these calculations for elections. (Synod Bylaw 3.1.3.1.c)

D2.01 OFFICERS

The officers of the District shall be:

- a. The President ;
- b. Five (5) Regional Vice-Presidents ;
- c. A Secretary;
- d. A Treasurer;
- e. One Circuit Visitor per visitation Circuit of the District.

D2.02 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. The Board of Directors of the District shall be composed of:
 1. The Officers of the District with the exception of the Circuit Visitors
 2. Three (3) ministers of religion-commissioned ;
 3. Ten (10) laypersons, two (2) laypersons per region of the District.

D2.03 APPOINTIVE OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES

The president may appoint the following officials and committees:

- a. LCEF Committee. The members of the LCEF Committee shall be approved by the Board of Directors of the District upon the recommendation of the President in consultation with the Vice President of LCEF. The duties of the Committee shall be to further the ministries partnership of LCEF through its investments, loans and ministry support. and the Committee may consist of the President of the District, the chairman of the Board of Directors, and other such members as recommended by President and/or Vice President-LCEF for the District. Such member recommendations are subject to ratification by the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the triennium.
- b. Committee on Convention Registration, Credentials, Housing, and Attendance, composed of:

1. One (1) minister of religion-ordained, pastor of a voting congregation;
 2. One (1) lay person, member of a voting congregation;
 3. One (1) minister of religion-commissioned, member of a voting congregation.
- c. Judge of Elections, who is to be the pastor of a voting congregation, for whom the District shall furnish adequate clerical assistance.
 - d. Committee on Conference Essays and Minutes, composed of:
 - a. One (1) minister of religion-ordained, pastor of a voting congregation;
 - b. One (1) lay person, member of a voting congregation;
 - c. One (1) minister of religion-commissioned, member of a voting congregation.
 - e. Convention Reviewing Committee and Floor Committees for the processing of reports and overtures, as determined to be necessary by the President.
 - f. Committee for District Archives shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

D2.04 TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office for all officers and the Board of Directors shall be three (3) years. All officers and the Board of Directors shall begin their term of office at the time specified in these Bylaws. No elected individual shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms in any one (1) elective office, except that the President and the district treasurer shall be eligible for four (4) consecutive terms of office.

D2.05 TRANSITION OF ADMINISTRATIONS

- a. The President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, the members of the Board of Directors (except the Treasurer), and all members of elected committees shall assume their respective duties within thirty (30) days following the adjournment of the District Convention following their election.
- b. At all times material during the Transition of Administrations the Board of Directors shall work in good faith with the incoming administration to assist the newly elected President with matters relating to his transition which may include, without any limitation, his relocation to the District Office.
- c. The newly elected President shall meet with the members of the District staff and the new Board of Directors as soon as reasonably possible after his election, to assess the state of the District, to plan for the communication and carrying out of the resolutions of the District convention, and to gather names and obtain information helpful for making wise appointments.
Following the election of a new President, the outgoing President shall continue to receive a full salary to the end of the calendar year, unless he accepts another position.

D2.06 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The duties of all officers and the Board of Directors, elected or appointed, shall be consistent with its Charter and the Constitution, Bylaws and resolutions of the Synod.

D2.07 ACCOUNTABILITY

The Board of Directors, all officers, and the elected committee for nominations shall be accountable to the District for all their transactions. All other committees shall be accountable to the Board of Directors.

D2.08 VACANCIES

All vacancies shall be filled according to Charter provided the method of filling vacancies is not contrary or inconsistent with the then existing Constitution, Bylaws and resolutions of the Synod.

THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

D2.09 RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. The District President, shall assure all of his responsibilities as outlined in the Bylaw 4.4 of Synod are fulfilled. These responsibilities are:
 1. to be the chief executive of the District;
 2. to represent the Synod in his District;
 3. to represent the Synod in connection with all ordinations, commissioning, and installations;
 4. in his ministry of ecclesiastical supervision, visit the congregations of the District;
 5. to supervise the teaching, the life, and the official administration of the ordained and commissioned ministers of the District or are subject to his ecclesiastical supervision; and shall inquire into the spiritual conditions of the congregations of his District and take such action as may be necessary, which may include suspending from membership ordained or commissioned ministers for persistently adhering to false doctrine or for having given offense by an ungodly life;
 6. to arrange for official visitations or investigations when a controversy arises in a congregation or between two or more congregations or when there is evidence of a continuing unresolved problem in doctrine or practice;
 7. to maintain the official rosters of his District;
- b. In addition to those responsibilities outlined in Bylaw 4.4, the District President, shall assure that the following responsibilities are fulfilled:
 9. At the sessions of the District, the President shall conduct the meetings according to the accepted parliamentary rules and in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and of the District.
 10. He shall be an ex officio voting member of all committees, and task forces of the District.
 11. He shall oversee the creation and distribution of the convention manual prior to the District convention.
 12. He shall sign legal documents and instruments requiring his signature and shall perform all additional duties which the District places on him through its Bylaws, regulations, and by special resolution.
 13. He shall be a full-time executive. He shall not be in charge of a congregation or hold a chair at any educational institution.
 14. He shall be the chief executive officer of the District and have supervision of all officers and employees of the District.
 15. He shall make regular reports to the District Board of Directors regarding critical ministry targets and desired outcomes of the Board of Directors.
 16. He shall be responsible for carrying out the resolutions of the District Convention.

D2.10 VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

- a. When a vacancy occurs in the office of the President and is officially declared so by the Board of Directors, the First Vice-President shall be requested by the Board of Directors to assume the office; and if he consents, he shall be declared President by the Board of Directors.
- b. If the First Vice-President declines, the Second Vice-President shall be requested by the Board of Directors to assume the office; and if he consents, he shall be declared President by the Board of Directors.
- c. If the Second Vice-President also declines, the Third Vice-President shall be requested by the

Board of Directors to assume the office; and if he consents, he shall be declared President by the Board of Directors.

- d. If the Third Vice-President also declines, the Fourth vice-President shall be requested by the Board of Directors to assume the office; and if consents, he shall be declared President by the Board of Directors.
- e. If the Fourth vice-President also declines, the Fifth Vice President shall be requested by the Board of Directors to assume the office; and if consents, he shall be declared President by the Board of Directors.
- f. If the Fifth Vice President also declines, the Board of Directors shall appoint an acting President. If less than one (1) year remains in the term of the President, the acting President shall remain in office until the next regular convention of the District. If more than one year remains, the Board of Directors shall call for nominations by the congregations of the District for candidates to fill the office of President and shall be empowered to elect a President from those five (5) candidates who have received the largest number of nominations and who have indicated a willingness to serve.

D2.11 PERTAINING TO THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

- a. The Vice-Presidents shall be voting members of the Board of Directors.
- b. A Vacancy in the Vice-Presidency shall be filled as follows and those filling the vacancy shall serve the remainder of the term:
 1. A vacancy in the First Vice-presidency shall be filled by advancing the Second Vice-President.
 2. A vacancy in the Second Vice-presidency shall be filled by advancing the Third Vice-President.
 3. A vacancy in the Third Vice-presidency shall be filled by advancing the Fourth vice-President.
 4. A vacancy in the Fourth vice-presidency shall be filled by advancing the Fifth Vice-President.
 5. A vacancy in the Fifth Vice-presidency shall be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors .

THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

D2.12 THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Secretary shall be a minister of religion, ordained, and a rostered member of the District.

D2.13 DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

- a. He shall cause a full and complete record of the business transacted by the corporation at all regular and special conventions and the meetings of the Board of Directors to be kept.
- b. He shall be the official correspondent of the corporation and the Board of Directors.
- c. He shall submit to the members of the Board of Directors copies of the minutes of the board.
- d. He shall cause a report to be sent to all officers of the District and to all committees, and task forces of the District of the resolutions pertinent to them, or their work, enacted by the District at its convention or by its Board of Directors.
- e. He shall function, if appropriate, as an administrator in the dispute resolution process (Handbook of Synod [2016 edition, or its progeny] Bylaws 1.10.4a and 1.10.6.)
- f. He shall be responsible for carrying out the nomination procedures outlined in these bylaws according to the appropriate Synodical Bylaws (Handbook of Synod [2016 edition, or its progeny] Bylaw 4.7.). He shall cause the proceedings of the conventions of the District to be published. He shall oversee the preparation of the manuscripts, recording all resolutions in the wording in

which they have been adopted, and cause the proceedings to be published after the President of the District has approved them.

- g. He shall, prior to the District convention, submit to the Commission on Constitutional Matters for their review, a copy of all anticipated corrections, additions, or deletions to or of the District bylaws.
- h. He shall, upon the close of the District convention, present a copy of all corrections, additions, or deletions to or of the District bylaws to the Board of Directors, and when prepared, provide an updated copy of the Articles of incorporation and Bylaws to the Office of the Secretary of Synod.

D2.14 DUTIES OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

- a. An assistant Secretary shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and appointed by the board in consultation with the District President.
- b. The responsibility of the assistant Secretary shall be limited to the signing of official documents as authorized by the Board of Directors in the absence of the Secretary.
- c. Copies of documents signed by the Assistant Secretary will be provided to the District Secretary.

D2.15 THE DISTRICT TREASURER

The District Treasurer, appointed by the Board of Directors, shall be responsible, either directly or through staff assistance, to the Board of Directors for the following:

- a. To assist in the preparation of the District budget;
- b. To report quarterly to the board on the financial status of the District and provide an annual report to the District at the close of each fiscal year;
- c. To assure that all District monies are appropriately received, recorded, and deposited in financial institution(s) approved by the Board of Directors;
- d. To make District financial records available for audits authorized by the board;
- e. To assure that all District funds are disbursed as authorized and in accordance with the District budget;
- f. To provide for the safe-keeping of all notes, deeds, and other official documents of the District;
- g. To ensure that all District officers and staff (professional and clerical) handle District moneys properly and successfully completed a background check by the District;
- h. To arrange for the borrowing of moneys in the name of the District as authorized by the Board of Directors.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

D2.16 MEMBERSHIP

- a. The Board of Directors shall consist of twenty-one (21) persons as follows: the District President; the five (5) vice-Presidents; the District Secretary; the District Treasurer; ten (10) lay persons who are resident members of congregations, two (2) from each respective regions of the District; and three (3) ministers of religion, commissioned, who are members of the Synod.
- b. Every member of the board shall be a member of a member congregation of the District and, if an individual member of the Synod, on the district roster. When a member of the board ceases to be a member of a member congregation of the District or, if an individual member of the Synod, ceases to be on the district roster, he/she shall automatically lose membership on the board. Those members of the Board of Directors who are elected representatives for regions of the District shall cease to be members of the board if they are no longer residing in the region which they represent.

D2.17 REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Members of the board shall discharge their duties in good faith. The following are considered cause for removal pursuant to Synod Bylaw 1.5.7:

- a. Incapacity
- b. Breach of fiduciary responsibility
- c. Neglect or refusal to perform the duties of office
- d. No longer satisfying the qualifications for a Board member
- e. Conviction of a felony
- f. Failure to disclose conflicts of interest
- g. Conduct evidencing a scandalous life
- h. Advocacy of false doctrine, as per the confessional standard of the Synod (Constitution, Article II)
- i. Failure to honor and uphold the doctrinal position of the Synod
- j. Accumulation of three (3) unexcused absences within any term of office

D2.18 VACANCIES

The board shall have power to fill all vacancies in its membership. The member thus appointed shall serve out the unexpired term of the person he/she succeeds.

D2.19 OFFICERS

At the first meeting of the triennium, the Board of Directors shall elect one (1) of its members to serve as Chairman. The Secretary of the District shall function as the Secretary of the board.

D2.20 AUTHORITY

The Board of Directors, charged with the general management of the District's affairs, shall assume office at the time specified in Bylaw D2.05.

D2.21 ORGANIZATION

- a. Between conventions, the Board of Directors shall formulate policy and evaluate the programs designed to carry out the District's work in accordance with the rules and regulations of the District.
- b. The Executive staff of District (as more particularly defined by the President of the District) shall be advisory to the board and shall implement the programs and policies determined by the District President.

D2.22 MEETINGS

- a. The board shall meet four (4) times a year.
- b. The President or at the direction of at least one-third of the members of the Board of Directors, may call other meetings, special or regular, as may be deemed necessary.
- c. Meetings may be held in person or by electronic means including, without any limitation, Skype, or its progeny, video conferencing, or by teleconference call according to LCMS Board of Directors policy for electronic meetings. Such meetings shall take into consideration fostering the open exchange of ideas, availability of technology to all members, stewardship of resources, perception of fairness, controversial nature of agenda items, and whether secret ballots should be used
- d. The majority of the voting membership of the board shall constitute a quorum provided that all members have been duly notified by mail or telephone as to time and place of meeting at least

one week in advance.

D2.23 AUTHORITY BETWEEN MEETINGS

Executive Committee

- a. At its first meeting the newly elected board shall elect from among its members an executive committee consisting of the District President, the Treasurer, and three (3) additional members, at least one (1) of whom must be a minister of religion ordained and one (1) a member of the laity.
- b. Also, the chairman of the board shall be one (1) of the five (5) members of the executive committee.
- c. The committee shall have the authority to act for the board between meetings.
 - a. This committee may not perform acts specifically required by statute or by legislation or the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod.
 - b. This committee may not overturn actions of the Board of Directors.
 - c. The actions of this committee shall be reported to the plenary sessions of the Board of Directors.

D2.24 DUTIES

The duties of the Board of Directors shall be:

- a. To conduct an annual evaluation of the District President regarding his administrative performance.
- b. To appoint the Treasurer;
- c. To ratify the hiring/terminating of any executive staff of the District, and determine their length of service;
- d. To annually review the system for determining the compensation of all personnel salaried by the District;
- e. To hold in trust the properties of the District, with power to buy, sell, or hold properties of all types, in accord with the rules and regulations of the District;
- f. To adopt the annual budget, with powers of review and change as necessary, upon the advice of the District Treasurer.
- g. To determine the validity of any appeal for funds within the District by organizations or groups inside or outside the District;
- h. To authorize the Treasurer to borrow money necessary for the orderly operation of the District;
- i. To indemnify members of the Board of Directors.
- j. To conform its actions to applicable rules and regulations of the Synod and the District. Appeals concerning actions of the board shall be brought to the District convention. The action of the convention on such appeals shall be final.
- k. To approve legal aspects of the corporation in compliance with all applicable laws.
- l. To approve congregational constitutions and bylaws upon recommendation of the District President.
- m. To appoint legal counsel.

D2.25 EXPENSES

All expenses incurred by the board in carrying out its duties shall be paid by the District.

D2.26 AUDITOR

All books and financial records of the District shall be audited at least annually by an external certified

public accountant or by CPA's of the Synod's Internal Audit Department as determined by the Board of Directors in its sole discretion. A full report of any such audit shall be submitted to the board, with a summary report made available to the District convention.

SELECTIONS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD

D2.28 JUDGE OF ELECTIONS

- a. The President of the District shall appoint a judge of elections prior to the first session of the convention in which elections are to be held. The District shall supply adequate administrative assistance and the necessary equipment to prepare and tabulate ballots.
- b. The ballots shall designate the office to be filled and the number of candidates to be voted for. The ballot shall list in alphabetical order the names of the candidates to be voted for in each office or board. In the necessity of a second and subsequent ballot for president or vice president, the candidate having the least number of votes shall be removed from the ballot. In ballots for all other positions, any candidate receiving less than 15% of the vote shall also be removed from the ballot unless fewer than two candidates receive 15 percent or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot. Balloting shall continue until a majority vote is received.
- c. The ballot shall be prepared in such manner as to show clearly how the delegates are to indicate their votes.
- d. Ballots shall be distributed only to delegates properly identified and present on the convention floor or properly present in convention committee rooms.
- e. Once voting has begun, no recess or adjournment shall be taken until the respective ballots have been cast.
- f. For the tabulation of votes: mechanical, electronic, or other equipment may be employed, but if manual counting of ballots becomes necessary the tabulation shall take place in the customary manner by at least one (1) reader and one (1) tabulator:
 - a. In reporting the number of votes cast and the number of votes required for election, all ballots cast, except blanks, should be counted. A vote shall be credited to the name of the respective candidate if the meaning is clear and the intention of the voter can be established.
- g. Before announcing the names of the candidates elected, the judge of elections shall give copies of the tabulated votes to the Chairman and the Secretary of the convention. The tally of the votes cast for each candidate shall be announced after each ballot in all elections.
- h. All ballots shall be preserved by the judge of elections separately, according to the order of balloting, until the convention has been adjourned.
- i. The judge of elections shall distribute the information concerning the candidates which has been furnished him by the committee on nominations at least two (2) hours prior to the vote.
- j. Since it is not feasible for all candidates to be present at the convention, it shall be the policy not to introduce to the convention, in person, any candidate.

D2. 29 MAJORITY OF VOTES

A majority of all votes cast shall be required for election to all elective offices and other elective positions. Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot shall be declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, balloting will proceed with the candidate receiving the smallest number of votes eliminated from consideration until one (1) candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, who shall be declared elected.

D2.30 ELECTION OF THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Nominations

Nominations for District President shall be made by member congregations from the ordained roster of Synod through the District Secretary and shall close ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of the convention. The District Secretary shall call for nominations at least 180 days prior to the convention. Each congregation shall have the right to nominate two (2) candidates for the office of the presidency. There shall be no opportunity provided for additional nominations.

The five (5) ministers of religion, ordained, receiving the highest number of nominations shall be considered candidates.

Biographical sketches and indications of the candidates' willingness to serve shall be secured by the District Secretary.

Elections

- a. Each voting delegate shall have one (1) vote and the candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected.
- b. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, see D2.28.b.

D2.31 PRIMARY ELECTION FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Nominations

- a. Nominations for regional Vice-President shall be made from the ordained roster of the District by member congregations of each region within the District no later than ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of the convention. Nominees must be residents within the region they represent. The District Secretary shall call for nominations at least 180 days prior to the convention.
- b. The member congregations of each region have the right to nominate two (2) ministers of religion ordained.
- c. In each region, the three (3) ministers of religion, ordained who receive the highest number of nominations shall be considered candidates.

Biographical sketches and indications of the candidates' willingness to serve shall be secured by the District Secretary.

Selection

- a. At a regional caucus held at the District convention, each voting delegate of the region shall be entitled to vote in the selection of a candidate for regional vice president to be ratified by the entire convention. There shall be no additional nominations from the floor during the regional caucus;
- b. The first nominee to receive a majority of the votes cast shall be declared selected as candidate; if no nominee receives a majority of the votes cast, see D2.28.b;
- c. All regional selections of candidates shall be subject to ratification by the entire convention which retains the right to amend the slate.

D2.32 ELECTION AND RANKING OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

After the election of the vice-Presidents by ratification by the entire convention, they shall be ranked (1st, . . . 5th) each by a separate ballot on which each delegate shall vote for one candidate for each Vice Presidential office. The candidate in each ranking receiving the majority vote shall be considered ranked in order of the ballot taking place

D2.33 REGIONS OF THE DISTRICT

- a. For the purpose of electing representatives to the Board of Directors, the District shall be divided into five (5) regions. These regions shall consist of:
Region I - North Atlanta, South Atlanta, East Central Georgia, and NE Georgia Circuits
- b. Region II - Tallahassee, First Coast, and North Central Florida Circuits
- c. Region III - Orlando East, Orlando West, Space Coast, , and Winter Haven Circuits
- d. Region IV - Suncoast, St. Petersburg, Tampa, Sarasota, and Southwest Circuits
- e. Region V - Treasure Coast, South Palm Beach, Gold Coast, Heartland, and Monroe-Miami-Dade Circuits
- f. Additional Circuits which may be formed shall be assigned to a Region by the convention.

D2.34 SELECTION OF REGIONAL LAY REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. Nominations for regional lay representatives on the Board of Directors shall be made by member congregations of each region no later than ninety (90) days prior to the start of the convention. The District Secretary shall call for nominations at least 180 days prior to the start of the convention.
- b. Any congregation within a region may nominate two (2) individuals to be regional lay representative to the District Board of Directors. Congregations may nominate candidates who reside within in the region of the congregation.
- c. Nominations shall be sent to the District Secretary, and shall contain biographical information as well as an indication of the individual's willingness to serve if elected
- d. At the regional caucus to select lay representatives
 1. There shall be no additional nominations from the floor during the regional caucus;
 2. Two (2) lay persons from the region shall be selected in a the same manner as in D2.31
 3. Only one (1) lay representative may be selected from a single congregation.
 4. All regional selections shall be subject to ratification by the entire convention which retains the right to amend the slate.

D2.35 COMMITTEE FOR NOMINATIONS

- a. Nominating Committee. Members of the Nominating Committee are elected at the District Convention. The Nominating Committee shall be a committee for nominations, composed of two (2) ministers of religion-ordained, four (4) lay persons, and two (2) ministers of religion-commissioned.
 1. Each region of the District shall be represented on the committee.
 2. The term of office shall be three (3) years.
 3. Committee members shall not succeed themselves.
 4. In the event that a member of the Committee for nominations is unable to serve, the District Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement from the same Region and the same classification.
- b. Duties of the Nominating Committee - At least 180 days before the District convention, the committee for nominations shall, through the District Secretary, request the voting congregations of the District to submit suggestions for nominees for the following offices: District Secretary; members of the Board of Directors who are ministers of religion, commissioned; the District committee for nominations; and/or others not covered by specific rules and regulations.
- c. A special form for information concerning the nominees shall be included. (See Suggested Information Sheet, D2.36.)
- d. The nominations shall be sent to the Secretary of the District, who shall forward them to the committee for nominations. As nominations are received, the chairman of the committee shall

notify all nominees with the request that they state their willingness to serve in the event of their election. The committee for nominations shall do the actual selecting of the nominees from those who have indicated their willingness to serve. A declaration of a willingness to serve does not guarantee nominating.

- e. Forms on which nominations are to be made shall be available also at the convention, to be signed by persons making such nominations. Nominations shall be called for at the beginning of the morning session of the first day of the convention, and the completed forms must be submitted no later than 10:00 A.M. of the same day, and not less than two hours prior to the vote. Elections may take place in the afternoon session of that day or at the direction of the chair.
- f. The convention shall have the right to amend any slate of nominations by floor nomination. When a nomination is made from the floor, the Committee for Nominations shall require that consent and biographical data be provided for anyone being nominated by the delegate offering the nominations. This consent and biographical information shall be publicized by the judge of elections at least 2 hours prior to a vote.

D2.36 INFORMATION SHEET AND STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO SERVE

In the nominating of ministers of religion, ordained or commissioned, and lay persons for a District office, information concerning them shall be made available at the District convention. The following information shall be included in the information furnished:

- a. Information required of all nominees
 1. Name and address
 2. Email
 3. Phone Number(s)
 4. Age
 5. Present congregation
 6. Number of years in the District
 7. Present incumbent
 8. District offices previously held
 9. Office to which nominated
 10. Statement of willingness to serve
- b. Additional information for ministers of religion, ordained)
 1. Former churches or ministries served
 2. Year of ordination
- c. Additional information for ministers of religion, commissioned)
 1. Years in office
 2. Former services rendered
- d. Additional information for lay persons
 1. Formal education
 2. Business Occupation (past, present)
 3. Employed/Retired
 4. Former congregations and offices held there

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

D3.01 TIME OF ELECTION

The election of District officers, board members, and committee and commission members shall take

place at a regular convention of the District.

D3.02 RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE

The accredited pastor and lay delegate of each voting congregation in the District shall be entitled to vote. If a pastor serves two (2) or more congregations, these shall be regarded as one (1) parish and shall be entitled to only one (1) lay vote.

DISTRICT OFFICERS

D3.03 ELIGIBILITY

All officers, board members, commission members and members of committees shall be members of member congregations of the District or the District roster and shall have been active in the District for at least one (1) year. The one (1) year limitation shall not apply to the office of District President, District vice President, District Secretary, and circuit visitor (Synod Bylaw 4.3.1).

D3.04 THE RATIFICATION OF CIRCUIT VISITORS

The ratification of the circuit visitors shall take place after the election of the President, vice-Presidents, and Secretary, according to the provisions of the Bylaws of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

DISTRICT MISSIONS

D4.01 ESTABLISHMENT OF MISSIONS

It is the purpose of the District assist and encourage every congregation of the District to be a church in mission; and every man and woman a missionary, all working together under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, empowered by His Gospel, to share his Love. To that end, the Board of Directors shall see that resources are provided to the congregations and the ministries of the District, as they are available and deemed appropriate.

D5.01 AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Changes in the Bylaws and additions thereto may be made, provided they are:

- a. Not contrary to the Charter of the District, or the Constitution or Bylaws of the Synod;
- b. Presented in writing to the Board of Directors; the District Secretary shall forward proposed bylaw amendments the Commission on Constitutional Matters for review and approval prior to their being considered by the District convention (Synod Bylaw 3.9.2.23 [a-b]);
- c. Passed by a majority of the voting delegates in convention assembled.

Bylaws revised on the basis of the actions of the 2018 Convention of The Florida-Georgia District, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Prayer

Rev. Douglas Kallesen led the Convention in prayer for intentions that had been requested by delegates and guests of the Convention.

Election of District Secretary

Rev. Dr. Walton called forth Judge of Elections, Rev. Ken Green, for the election of District Secretary

Rev. Green introduced the nominees for District Secretary

- Rev. Jay Winters

Rev. Winters was elected by acclamation.

Election of Commissioned Representatives to the Board of Directors

Rev. Green introduced the nominees for Commissioned Representatives to the Board of Directors

- Mr. Jesse Crosmer
- Ms. Lois Ford
- Ms. Tammie Worthington

The members of the slate were elected by acclamation.

Seminaries

Rev. Dr. Walton brought forward Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and Mr. Lance Hoffman from Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne to give presentations on the work of LCMS Seminaries.

The LCMS Foundation

Rev. Dr. Walton brought forward Mr. James Pennington to present concerning the work of the LCMS Foundation.

LCEF

Rev. Dr. Walton brought forward Rev. Bart Day of Lutheran Church Extension Fund to present on LCEF's work not only in the Florida Georgia District, but throughout the world.

Synod Emphasis

Rev. Dr. Walton invited Jon Zehnder of Floor Committee 3 to read and move Resolution 3.9 (To Provide Mission and Ministry Emphases), seconded, PASS.

Motion

- Favor 88.1 % (133 votes)
- Against 11.9% (18 votes)

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 – 24, 2018**

**Resolution: 3.9-2018
Floor Committee: Administration and Theology**

TO PROVIDE MISSION AND MINISTRY EMPHASES

WHEREAS, Our Lord has built His Church upon the rock of the solid declaration of the confession that "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God" and that even the gates of hell shall not prevail against this Church; and

WHEREAS, Our common confession of the true exposition of Scripture, the Book of Concord, stipulates the necessary and fundamental aspects of the ordering of the Church, such as the call of those who preach and administer the Sacraments (Augsburg Confession, Article XIV) and the doctrine of the Gospel (Augsburg Confession, Article VII); and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) finds itself in the midst of the ever changing tides of culture which have resulted in falling demographics including fewer Baptisms and professions of faith proving that churches need resources that will enable them to meet the challenges specific to this age; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS solicits its congregations and Districts to provide ministry and mission emphases to help guide it to faithful and fruitful work; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District believes the following recommendations to be helpful not only to the Florida Georgia District itself, but to the entire LCMS and through it, to provide a witness to the Church worldwide;

WHEREAS, The Circuits of the Florida Georgia District in their Circuit forums have provided the following recommendations through their Circuit Forums.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida Georgia District of the LCMS (Hereafter "District") encourage the LCMS to help its member congregations to help define what a congregation is in our day, and how our congregations can be most effective; and be it further

Resolved, That the District encourage the LCMS to explore possible changes in the training of professional ministers of the Gospel, ordained and commissioned, to help congregations that may not be able to afford a pastor or other church worker currently, specifically exploring alternatives to residential education; and be it further

Resolved, The District encourage the LCMS to help its member congregations to train both its ministers and laity to communicate via relational conversation in addition to declaration of the truth; and be it finally

Resolved, That Florida-Georgia District in Convention memorialize these priorities to the Synod as preparations are underway for the 2019 Synod Convention.

[Presentation from the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Representative](#)

Rev. Dr. Walton brought forth LCMS Representative, President Matthew Harrison to give a report on the state of the Synod.

[Dismissal](#)

Rev. Dr. Walton asked for a motion to adjourn for the day, moved, seconded, PASS by acclamation of standing to sing a verse of Abide with Me at 5:22pm.

Business was closed and the Convention dismissed following a prayer by Rev. Doug Kallesen.

June 24, 2018

Opening

The Convention was opened at 8am

Worship & Installation of President Walton

The Convention worshiped together. During this worship service, President Harrison installed Rev. Dr. Walton as the President of the Florida-Georgia District.

Convention Essay 2

At 9:29am, Rev. Dr. Walton invited Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer to deliver the second convention essay.

Q/A with LCMS Representative

A time of question and answer was given by LCMS Representative, President Matthew Harrison.

Doulos tou Christou –Rev. Jim Guelzow, Ordained Minister of Religion

Rev. Dr. Walton then brought forth Rev. James Guelzow to accept the Doulos tou Christou award from the District.

Treasurer's Report

Rev. Dr. Walton invited forward District Treasurer Renee Varga. Treasurer Varga explained the Treasurer's report delivered to the Convention.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Rev. Dr. Walton brought forward Mr. Daniel Reichard to explain the Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Nominations Committee Election

Rev. Dr. Walton called forth Judge of Elections, Rev. Ken Green, and Chaplain of the Convention, Rev. Doug Kallesen, for the election of the Nominations Committee.

Rev. Green introduced the nominees for Nominations Committee – Ordained.

Rev. Kallesen led the convention in prayer.

Ordained

- Rev. Jeffrey Jordan - Region 1
- Rev. Dana Brones - Region 2
- Rev. Dean Pfeffer - Region 3

Commissioned Minister –

- Ms. Stephanie Karolus - Region 2
- Mr. David Weidner - Region 3

Lay Person

- Mr. Larry Wenndt – Region 1
- Dr. Joel Holcombe – Region 2
- Mr. Jim Ingersoll – Region 3
- Mr. Jeffrey Richards – Region 4
- Mrs. Jean Roehrs – Region 4
- Mrs. Karen Smith – Region 5
- Mrs. Nancy Volz – Region 5

Rev. Douglas Kallesen led the convention in prayer before election.

The following were elected:

Ordained

- Rev. Dana Brones - Region 2
- Rev. Dean Pfeffer - Region 3

Commissioned Minister

- Ms. Stephanie Karolus - Region 2
- Mr. David Weidner - Region 3

Lay Person

- Mr. Larry Wenndt - Region 1
- Mr. Jeffrey Richards - Region 4
- Mrs. Karen Smith - Region 5
- Mrs. Nancy Volz - Region 5

Rev. Dr. Walton thanked the Judge of Elections for his work and dismissed him.

President's Acceptance Speech

Rev. Dr. Walton invited Rev. Brighton to assume the chair.

Rev. Brighton invited Rev. Dr. Walton to give an acceptance speech for his election as District President.

President Walton's Acceptance Speech 2018

My dear brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus,

As we come to the close of this convention, I am once again deeply humbled and honored to have your support to serve another term as the District President of the Florida-Georgia District. I cannot even begin to tell you how honored I have been to represent the Florida-Georgia District, both here and nationally. I vow to you to continue to do so to the best of my ability for the glory of Jesus and the good of the District. As you know, this is my last possible term, and so it is my hope that together we can make the most of these next three years to honor Jesus, for the sake of the Gospel and building God's kingdom in Florida and Georgia.

When I graduated from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1987 my very first call was to a mission congregation. I never imagined serving in a mission congregation nor in the Florida-Georgia District. Edith and I really felt strongly that we wanted to go home to serve in New York in a stable, suburban congregation. Our vicarage ministry was a large ministry in suburban Kansas City, and I thought that is the kind of ministry I would be called to. I couldn't really even have told you where Georgia was—no offense, because we love Georgia and its where our grandchildren are, and we'll likely retire there! I quickly learned that God had a better plan, and I began my early ministry in the farthest outpost in the Florida-Georgia District at that time in a failing mission congregation. How well I remember the sainted **Lloyd Behnken**, telling me on call night that I was going to a challenging situation, and that in two years, if things hadn't turned around, he would close the congregation and move me to another location. It's what every seminarian wants to hear for their first call... In two years we moved into a new facility and began to grow by God's grace, definitely showing that God can use even weak vessels to accomplish His goals.

It has been a privilege to serve in the Florida-Georgia District, in large part because of **Lloyd Behnken's** successor, former President **Tom Zehnder**, who gave me, and all our pastors, opportunities to succeed, and provided a great example of a leader. That continued with former President **Gerhard Michael**, who continues to be an inspiration as he serves a mission congregation in Dahlonega. This District has been my spiritual home-base for the past 31 years. I am proud of the fact that we are a missional district, finding new ways to equip, empower and engage, to connect people to Jesus.

Ministry has certainly become more challenging over the past nine years as society has become so complex. Churches are facing issues today that our forefathers couldn't even have imagined. Things like confused sexual identity, use of guns, terroristic threats, and a general ambivalence toward the church have impacted congregations in our district and across the Synod. The Church that many of us grew up knowing seems less effective to meet the needs of a rapidly changing culture.

The days of unchurched people walking through the doors of your church is becoming a rarity. If the church is to effectively impact people with the Gospel it will be by going to where they work and play. It begins with each of us abiding in Jesus, but that's not where we are to stay. Only as we venture out into the world and see the hurts and the needs will we be able to respond to God's call on His people. Jesus said, "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting life." This is the world that each of us are sent into to connect people to Jesus.

Your investment in me, your trust, is very important. The tasks of this office require a lot of dependence on the grace of Jesus, and even then, in my weak humanity and sinfulness I can only do things to the best of my God given ability. There may be times when you clearly see why I am making decisions or taking actions, and you agree. That is God's grace at work! There may be times when I disappoint you or let you down. Believe me when I say that it is unintentional. My heart desire, from the very start, has been to edify and build up. I tend to err on the side of grace in Jesus. My desire is always to work toward reconciliation and to bring the peace and joy of Jesus to the workers and congregations of our District. At times it seems an impossible task, but I am committed to working toward that end.

Let me say a word about my family. They have been supportive throughout my ministry, always planning around my schedule, mostly without complaint. **Edith** has been my partner in ministry for almost 35 years. She has, encouraged me, supported me, and allowed me the time and opportunity to do my job from the very beginning of our time in ministry in Toccoa, GA, and really even before through our college and seminary days. **My commitment to her began before my commitment to the Church—a vow that I try not to take for granted.** So many weekends have been spent driving on Saturday and Sunday to be with congregations, and building those relationships is a joyous thing for us both. It is far too easy to be consumed by the never ending tasks of ministry and to allow my priorities to get out of balance. Believe me when I tell you that Edith keeps me on track! While it is my privilege to serve this District, God has given to me my wife and children, and now my three beautiful grandchildren as very special gifts and as the first order of priority. There are times, when because of schedule, I'm away from home, sometimes for weeks at a time. Edith understands that. However, there will be days when I'm away from the District to be with her, or to be with my children and grandchildren. That means sometimes you may not hear back from me immediately. Brothers and sisters, DO NOT neglect your family or family commitments. The older I get the more I realize how precious this time really is. I will continue to strive for this in my own life and family.

In this final triennium of my service to the District, I want to continue to focus on missions and planting new ministries that are set up to connect people to Jesus. I still believe that *if* we want to see the church grow it begins with investing in, and developing, *relationships* with people. We have a wonderful doctrinal and historical heritage and we must not compromise either one. However, we must stop expending so much effort on protecting our doctrine and heritage and simply start living it out as we live in the world as Lutheran Christians. Actions speak louder than words, and seeing is often believing in our day! The world is filled with people who talk about faith but live in ways that betray that faith. It is time to realize that what we have considered so precious and valued carries no weight with the unbelieving world. They are looking for proof. They need Jesus! The churches in America are largely becoming smaller, and if we go into survival mode rather than focusing on reaching people for God's kingdom we will continue to be *ineffective* at best.

Twice in our Convention theme verses Jesus commands us to walk in love. This is the new command, a new way of thinking that can really impact a world that is striving to find ways to experience some kind of love. Jesus is calling us back to the very foundations of our faith. He is calling us to live "incarnationally" so that people see Jesus living in us! You and I are the ones chosen by Jesus to draw people to Him by the Holy Spirit working in us. Jesus said, ***"You did not choose Me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last..."***

This year the District is celebrating her 70th Anniversary. It's a great time to celebrate. As I often tell congregations celebrating an anniversary, an anniversary is a great time to reflect on the past, but also an even greater opportunity to learn from the past and look to the future. In the next three years I am encouraging each of the five regions of the District to strive to work together to plant two new ministries that connect people to Jesus. These don't necessarily need to be new congregations, although there are plenty of opportunities for that as well. What I am really talking about is getting into the community in some way to make an impact with the Gospel. It may be starting a coffee shop or bookstore in a place other than the campus of your congregation, creating new avenues to build relationships with your community.

We are exploring opportunities in each region, and I invite you to come on board. Don't let Satan sidetrack you, but let's abide in Jesus and keep the focus on connecting people to Jesus. We are talking about making an eternal difference. This is all about Kingdom growth and not simply filling pews. It's all about touching souls with the good news of forgiveness and salvation in Jesus. It's about bearing fruit for Jesus!

In this triennium I will also continue to focus on raising up leaders, both among our professional workers and among our laity. In August we have designed a conference called the Leadership Summit, specifically for lay leaders. The goal is to help them hone skills that will enable them to more fully participate and support their local parish by becoming a partner with the pastor and seeing that they, too, have ministry gifts to employ for the sake of the Gospel. We want to give and laity every opportunity to strengthen leadership qualities. I am convinced that this will help build stronger, healthier ministries in the district.

We have such a tremendous history as the Florida-Georgia District for the past 70 years, having started as a mission, and being mission minded, reaching into a variety of ethnicities and cultures, sharing the overwhelming forgiveness and love of Jesus, engaging in the Master's business. Almost every one of our congregations **began** with a deep **passion** to share the faith in Jesus that claimed us as God's own. We are Missionary people, abiding in the love of Jesus, chosen to bear fruit for Him. We dare not ever forget this and be lulled into a false sense of security, feeling that we have accomplished the mission. This mission will continue for each of us individually and collectively as a District, and even as a Synod, until

we go home or Jesus returns. May He find us faithful when He comes, abiding in Jesus, still engaged in the Master's business, and connecting people to Jesus!

The Florida-Georgia District is comprised of some 200 plus ministries, close to 6000 people, covering a third of the Eastern Seaboard, walking together as Synod in this very special and wonderful place we call home. We are people abiding in Jesus and committed to proclaiming Him through Word and Sacrament, sharing His love with all in need. I am confident that God will continue to bless our work in His harvest field, and He will continue to open opportunities before us, *as we keep our eyes on Jesus*. It's all about Jesus. For me it's always been about Jesus and the difference He makes in the lives of sinful people. I want to challenge us, as we look forward to our 75th Anniversary, to commit to planting two new ministry starts per region each year so in 2023 we can rejoice in 50 additional ministry starts that point people to Jesus, helping them to understand that they, too, have been chosen with purpose—to abide in Jesus!

Again, I am so grateful and honored to serve you and **serve with you**. I covet your prayers, your continued patience and your partnership. I pledge to you my desire and commitment to serve you as together **we serve Jesus**, keeping our eyes and hearts focused on Him. Thank you for your trust, for your friendship, for your prayers, for your support, and for the overwhelming mission spirit I find as I travel around this district. I pray God's blessings on each of you, **and on all of us**, that together we might live as His disciples, chosen with purpose, to abide in Jesus!

Thank you for your attention delegates and thank you Mr. Chairman.

Installation of Board of Directors

Rev. Dr. Walton reassumed the chair, and installed the Board of Directors.

Installation of Circuit Visitors

Rev. Dr. Walton reassumed the chair, and installed the Circuit Visitors.

Recognition and thanks to the Board of Directors and Circuit Visitors

Rev. Dr. Walton recognized the Board of Directors and Circuit Visitors who have served, especially those who will not be serving in the next triennium.

Closing of the Convention

Rev. Dr. Walton thanked the delegates for their time and attention during this Convention.

Rev. Dr. Walton closed the convention at 12:15pm.

Rev. Kallesen was brought forward to close the convention in prayer.

To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018

Resolution: 1.1 - 2018
Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach

TO SUPPORT THE DISTRICT'S WORK OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

WHEREAS, The State University System of Florida reported 341,000 students enrolled in state institutions of higher learning and the State University System of Georgia reported 321,000 students enrolled in state institutions of higher learning for a combined total of 662,000 college students enrolled in state institutions within the geographical boundaries of the Florida Georgia District, not including the many students enrolled in private institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, Our Lord encourages His disciples to "look, I tell you, lift up your eyes and see that the fields are white for harvest," (John 4); and

WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District has had a rich history of supporting missions to the colleges and universities within the District beginning with work at the University of Florida in 1931 and continuing forward with campus ministry work at no fewer than 10 colleges and universities throughout the District; and

WHEREAS, The colleges and universities within the District draw from the neighborhoods that are served by District churches and many of the graduates of these colleges and universities are sent into neighborhoods served by District churches for the beginnings of their careers; and

WHEREAS, The task of reaching new students with the Gospel has become challenging in new ways as fewer students are arriving at college having self-identified with the Christian faith or having been shaped by Christian communities; and

WHEREAS, Many campuses within the geographical boundaries are currently unserved or underserved by Gospel-oriented ministries;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (hereafter "District") affirm the importance of a vital outreach to students endeavoring in the vocations of higher education; and be it further

Resolved, That the District would allocate appropriate resources to the assessment of opportunities to connect with students on university campuses in new ways; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District would provide leadership for this vital mission to encourage existing campus ministry efforts and facilitate future outreach.

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 1.2- 2018
Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach**

COMMITMENT TO MISSION STARTS IN THE FL-GA DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Jesus has called all of His chosen disciples to abide in Him and bear fruit that will last (John 15:5; 8:16); and

WHEREAS, Jesus tells us the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few so we are to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest (Matt. 9:37-38); and

WHEREAS, Jesus calls us to go and make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19) referring to all His baptized, both clergy and laity alike; and

WHEREAS, We continue to see a decline in church attendance across our nation at alarming rates, and

WHEREAS, Statistics show that millennials are becoming less active and inclined not to attend worship services regularly; and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District Circuit Visitors and Board of Directors were told that within the next ten years, the LCMS can expect a loss of 500,000 baptized members; and

WHEREAS, Jesus promised that the gates of Hell would not prevail against His Church (Matt. 16:18), and

WHEREAS, God has saved people to serve (Eph. 2:10), and gifted all of His baptized so they are able to serve (1 Peter 4:10); and

WHEREAS, God desires all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4), and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District Board of Directors has set Leadership and Outreach as critical ministry targets, with a dedicated desire to raise up strong, healthy leaders and focus on outreach opportunities and resources; and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District hearing the call to connect people to Jesus seeks to equip, empower, and engage new leaders from among our clergy and laity with a focus on reaching out to communities with the life-saving good news of forgiveness and salvation that comes alone through the grace of Jesus; and

WHEREAS, God has blessed the Florida-Georgia District with a mission heart and attitude for the past 70 years; and

WHEREAS, The Florida-Georgia District, which covers one third of the Eastern Seaboard, has a diversity of culture and ethnic opportunities that differ from one end to the other so that it requires unique solutions to reach into specific communities and share the love of Jesus.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District renew its commitment to raising up healthy, visionary leaders who are disciples grounded in the Word of God, and be it further

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District continue to encourage congregations to recognize and act on the call of Jesus to reach their communities with the hope that we have with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15), and be it further

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District commit to raising up two new ministries in each of the five regions each year for the next five years, resulting in fifty new ministry starts, as we celebrate God's blessings and head toward the 75th Anniversary of the Florida-Georgia District in 2023, and be it finally

Resolved, That congregations, circuits and regions work together to engage in the Master's business for the sake of the Gospel so that many are connected to Jesus.

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 1.3- 2018
Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach**

TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF MISSION: HAITI

WHEREAS, Holy Scripture records the Great Commission: "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age: '"(Matthew 28:18-20 ESV); and

WHEREAS, The people of Haiti are among "all nations"; and

WHEREAS, Mission: Haiti has, since its inception in 1999, upheld Scripture as the rule and norm for faith and life and maintained an unqualified subscription to the Lutheran Confessions while serving the spiritual, educational, vocational, material and other needs of the people of Haiti; and

WHEREAS, Mission: Haiti has been designated the official sponsoring and organizing body for mission trips in cooperation with the ELCH; and

WHEREAS, Mission: Haiti is expanding its services in Haiti, including: sponsoring visiting LCMS pastors who educate future Haitian Lutheran pastors, instructing teachers, planting churches, providing VBS programs in outlying villages, drilling water wells, constructing schools and orphanages, providing medical clinics, providing livestock to families, and more; and

WHEREAS, Mission-Haiti is firmly committed to only supporting self-sufficiency projects that protect the dignity of Haitians and do not create dependency on "handouts"; and

WHEREAS, The proclamation of the Gospel by Mission-Haiti personnel has lead, directly or indirectly, hundreds of Haitians out of the darkness of Voodoo into the marvelous light of Jesus;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") reaffirm its partnership with Mission: Haiti to provide material, financial, logistical and other types of assistance; and be it further

Resolved, That individual congregations of the District be encouraged to pray for Mission-Haiti and provide material, financial and other types of assistance; and be it further

Resolved, That pastors and lay people be encouraged to consider participating in Mission-Haiti mission trips, to spread the Gospel and render care in Haiti; and be it finally

Resolved, That individuals and groups throughout the District be encouraged to pray for the people of Haiti.

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 1.4- 2018
Floor Committee: Mission & Outreach**

TO SUPPORT CARING MINISTRIES

WHEREAS, God has richly blessed thousands of children and families in Florida and Georgia through the faithful ministries of the Lutheran Services Florida; Lutheran Services of Georgia; Lutheran Services of North Florida; Redeeming Life Maternity Home; and Stepping Stones Ministries; and

WHEREAS, God has richly blessed congregations of the Florida-Georgia District as they have reached out to their neighbors in need with food, clothes, shelter, care, counseling and compassion; and

WHEREAS, The Lord Jesus wants us to care for others;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That we give thanks to God for faithful workers who carry out these important ministries; and be it further

Resolved, That congregations of the District encourage their members to volunteer in these caring ministries; and be it finally

Resolved, That we continue to implore the leading of the Holy Spirit so that our neighbors in need might know the compassion of Christ through the compassionate acts for individuals, congregations, and schools of the Florida-Georgia District.

To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018

Resolution: 2.1- 2018
Floor Committee: Ministry and Leadership

**TO DECLARE APRIL 18TH, 2021 AS "HERE I STAND" SUNDAY AND ENCOURAGE MULTI-
CONGREGATION CELEBRATIONS**

WHEREAS, We are now in the midst of several important half-millennium anniversary dates of important events regarding the Protestant Reformation; and

WHEREAS, The first such event, the 500th anniversary of the nailing of the 95 Theses was a tremendous success, with many congregations of the District and Synod gathering together for mass worship celebrations; and

WHEREAS, Scripture gives us encouragement with these words: "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful."; and

WHEREAS, Martin Luther made his "HERE I STAND" proclamation at the Diet of Worms before the emperor and leading Roman church officials on April 18th, 1521; and

WHEREAS, April 18th, 2021 is a Sunday and falls two weeks after the celebration of Easter that year;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That April 18th, 2021 be declared "HERE I STAND" Sunday throughout our District, its circuits and congregations; and be it further

Resolved, That these entities be encouraged to gather for worship celebrations to commemorate the event; and be it further

Resolved, That a district-wide thank-offering be coordinated and collected for that day, to be used toward the continued proclamation of the Gospel throughout Florida and Georgia; and be it further

Resolved, That our churches and people be encouraged to spend time in prayer, asking the Lord to continue to bless the proclamation of the Gospel; and be it finally

Resolved, That this District gathered in convention, memorialize the Synod, encouraging them to do the same church-wide.

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 2.2- 2018
Floor Committee: Ministry and Leadership**

TO ENCOURAGE LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR LAYPERSONS IN THE FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT

WHEREAS, "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members of one another," (Romans 12:5); and

WHEREAS, Lutheran theology has always viewed all vocations as important and has always affirmed the importance of lay involvement and leadership, affirming the priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:9); and

WHEREAS, All believers, including laypersons serve the Church in the name of Christ, and connect others to Jesus, and should therefore be encouraged, equipped, and engaged to do so; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District has specific resources and connections with people who would be able to train its lay people in a meaningful way, which has already been demonstrated through programs such as the President's Equip Conference, the Stewardship Summit, and the Emergent Leaders training; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District has the opportunity to stand as witness to the rest of our Synod and show the great opportunity found in developing robust training for laypersons within the congregations of the District;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") affirm the importance of leadership training opportunities for laypersons; and be it further

Resolved, That the District allocate necessary resources to train and network lay leaders throughout the District; and be it finally

Resolved, That at least one leadership training opportunity for lay persons be offered to the District in every year of the upcoming triennium.

**To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018**

**Resolution: 2.4- 2018
Floor Committee: Ministry and Leadership**

TO ENCOURAGE RECRUITMENT OF PROFESSIONAL CHURCH WORKERS

WHEREAS, Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38); and

WHEREAS, Such instruction encourages us not only to pray for more workers, but also to recruit and train those who are gifted for leadership positions in the Church, to carry out its part in God's mission to the world; and

WHEREAS, The number of professional church workers in our Synod, Ordained and Commissioned, is in a precipitous decline, limiting the proclamation of the Gospel;

Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") be directed to appoint a Task Force that will investigate best practices for recruitment and make recommendations for implementation of same to the District President; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District President report on the progress of implementation efforts to the 2021 District Convention.

To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 -24, 2018

Resolution: 3.1- 2018

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

TO ENSURE TIMELY AND TRANSPARENT FINANCIAL REPORTING IN THE SYNOD

WHEREAS, Biblical stewardship requires us to be accountable for the gifts that God has entrusted to His people, (Matthew 25:14ff, Luke 12:48; 1 Corinthians 4:2) (Matthew 25:14 ff.); and

WHEREAS, The Synod has historically recognized its responsibility of accountability and faithfulness in the handling of the finances entrusted to it by its members, as is evidenced by Synod Bylaws and Resolutions (LCMS Bylaw 1.5-4, 2010 Resolution 4-03, 2010 Convention Proceedings page 120); and

WHEREAS, The members of the Synod expressed even further the need for full transparency in all areas of financial disclosure of all funding, including special appeals by adopting 2016 convention **RESOLUTION 9-04A, "To Improve Disclosures Related to Financial Gifts from God's Stewards for Special Appeals," (2016 Convention Proceedings, p. 189)** which stated in part,

WHEREAS, That the financial offices of corporate Synod continue to recognize the desire of donors and members of the Synod to improve processes of reporting and work to provide clear, timely, and transparent accounting for all funding and special appeals, so that the Body of Christ may experience the joy of Gospel-centered mission and ministry beyond the local context or community."

WHEREAS, There is a desire among the members of the FLGA District for more transparency and regularity in reporting of the financial position of the Synod especially in regard to special appeals for disaster relief, which is of the utmost importance to the members and constituencies of the FLGA District who have a vested interest in the care of those impacted by disasters; and

WHEREAS, The people of God motivated by the Gospel will respond through better, open, and honest communication about the great things God is able to accomplish for His Kingdom when we work together.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod in convention direct the Chief Financial Officer to report quarterly in the Synod's official publications the financial position of the Synod in a format easily understood by persons unfamiliar with financial terminology according to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP); and be it further

Resolved, That these quarterly reports include information about the regular Synod budget as well as reporting on special appeals and be it finally

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District in convention memorialize the Synod in convention with this overture.

To the 33rd Regular Convention

Resolution: 3.6- 2018

Florida-Georgia District

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

June 22 -24, 2018

TO CHANGE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTORAL CIRCUIT

WHEREAS, The current requirement for an electoral circuit is 1500 communicant members AND 7 congregations in the circuit; and

WHEREAS, In light of the declining number of congregations as well as communicant members throughout the Synod. (District Visitation Report 2017-2019); and

WHEREAS, Current requirements for an electoral circuit are difficult to achieve as is evidenced by the growing number of exceptional circuit requests; and

WHEREAS, These requirements give undo priority to large congregations and circuits while disenfranchising smaller congregations and circuits,

Therefore be it

Resolved, That each of the District Presidents be given the authority to grant exceptional circuit status to not more than 20% of the established circuits as he may see fit based on the unique circumstances of the circuit and district, and be it finally

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District in convention memorialize the Synod in convention with this overture.

To the 33rd Regular Convention

Resolution: 3.7- 2018

(replaces O3.2; O3.3; O3.4)

Florida-Georgia District

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

June 22 – 24, 2018

**TO REESTABLISH THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT AS SUPERVISOR OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF
SYNOD**

WHEREAS, At the 2016 Convention of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, in its Resolution 12-14 [Regarding the Right of an Accuser to Appel when a District President or President of the Synod Fails to Act or Declines to Suspend] according to Bylaw 7.1.2, deferred its rightful legislative authority regarding the development of ecclesiastical supervision bylaws with respect to and inclusion of the President of the Synod giving the decision to the Synod's Board of Directors rather than to the legislative assembly; and

WHEREAS, The decision of the Board of Directors, as well as the most recent opinion of the Commission of Constitutional Matters (CCM) in this matter (CCM Op. 16-2791) diverges from historic opinions of CCM (Op 15.2750, 13-2669, 10-2581, 03-2354, 03-2338), and of historical understandings of the role of the Synod President in the ecclesiastical supervision of individual members of Synod (Creation of Districts - Synod Convention 1852, Giving the District President the Obligation to Visit Congregations of their Districts - Synod Convention 1864, Appointing the President of Synod, Suspension and Appels Process - Synod Convention 1890), and the correspondence of Synod Presidents such as C.F.W. Walther and H.C. Schwann; and

WHEREAS, This decision has caused undue confusion around the procedures concerning the serious matters of ecclesiastical supervision, leaving Districts, District Presidents, and individual members of Synod unsure of how to proceed in matters that require swift, contextual, and Biblical understanding; and

WHEREAS, This decision lengthens the duration of the reconciliation process and final action in cases that require timely resolution.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") memorialize Synod that CCM Opinion 16.2791 be nullified and sent for review with clear reference to the historical precedent of Synod's practices and rules since its inception; and be it further

Resolved, That the District memorialize Synod that the decision of the Board of Directors concerning 12-14, be nullified and sent for review; and be it further

Resolved, That the District memorialize Synod with proposed constitutional and bylaw changes that would seek to clarify and return to Synod's historic position; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District pray for peace and harmony within the District and Synod, providing a witness to God's powerful work of reconciliation in our lives.

To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 – 24, 2018

Resolution: 3.8- 2018

Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

TO REVISE THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, The Charter and Bylaws of the Florida Georgia District are to reflect the Constitution of Synod and its Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, Several changes to the Constitution of Synod and its Bylaws have resulted in inconsistencies between these documents; and

WHEREAS, Outside of these inconsistencies, other minor problems are found in the FLGA Charter and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, Due to the timely nature of how Districts are to change their charter and bylaws, the District was unable to approve alterations at the 2015 Convention; and

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida-Georgia District of the LCMS (hereafter "District") amend its Charter to be in agreement with that of Synod; and be it finally

Resolved, That the District amend its Bylaws to be in agreement with Synod.

To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 – 24, 2018

Omnibus Resolution C
Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

WHEREAS, The Administration and Theology Floor Committee has considered all overtures assigned to it and has concluded, for various reasons, that certain overtures should be declined;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the following overtures be respectfully declined for the reasons given:

Overture	Title	Reason
O2.3	To Extend Term Limits	Impractical, material error
O3.2	To Overrule Board of Directors' May 2017 Resolution 12-14, re Bylaw 7.1.2	See Resolution 03.7
O3.3	To Amend LCMS Constitution Article XI	See Resolution 03.7
O3.4	To Overturn CCM Opinion 16-2791, 16-2793, 16-2794, & 17-2828	See Resolution 03.7

To the 33rd Regular Convention
Florida-Georgia District
June 22 – 24, 2018

Resolution: 3.9-2018
Floor Committee: Administration and Theology

TO PROVIDE MISSION AND MINISTRY EMPHASES

WHEREAS, Our Lord has built His Church upon the rock of the solid declaration of the confession that "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God" and that even the gates of hell shall not prevail against this Church; and

WHEREAS, Our common confession of the true exposition of Scripture, the Book of Concord, stipulates the necessary and fundamental aspects of the ordering of the Church, such as the call of those who preach and administer the Sacraments (Augsburg Confession, Article XIV) and the doctrine of the Gospel (Augsburg Confession, Article VII); and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) finds itself in the midst of the ever changing tides of culture which have resulted in falling demographics including fewer Baptisms and professions of faith proving that churches need resources that will enable them to meet the challenges specific to this age; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS solicits its congregations and Districts to provide ministry and mission emphases to help guide it to faithful and fruitful work; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Georgia District believes the following recommendations to be helpful not only to the Florida Georgia District itself, but to the entire LCMS and through it, to provide a witness to the Church worldwide;

WHEREAS, The Circuits of the Florida Georgia District in their Circuit forums have provided the following recommendations through their Circuit Forums.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Florida Georgia District of the LCMS (Hereafter "District") encourage the LCMS to help its member congregations to help define what a congregation is in our day, and how our congregations can be most effective; and be it further

Resolved, That the District encourage the LCMS to explore possible changes in the training of professional ministers of the Gospel, ordained and commissioned, to help congregations that may not be able to afford a pastor or other church worker currently, specifically exploring alternatives to residential education; and be it further

Resolved, The District encourage the LCMS to help its member congregations to train both its ministers and laity to communicate via relational conversation in addition to declaration of the truth; and be it finally

Resolved, That Florida-Georgia District in Convention memorialize these priorities to the Synod as preparations are underway for the 2019 Synod Convention.

Official Acts and Notices

The official acts of the Florida-Georgia District listed in the Convention Proceedings are those that were processed prior to June 24, 2018.

Initial Placement of Rostered Workers in the FLGA District by the end of the 2018 Triennium

7/9/2017	Arias, Anthony Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Grace Arcadia, FL	Pastor Ordained
6/10/2018	Berlinski, Jacob Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	St. Luke's Oviedo, FL	Pastor Ordained only
6/10/2018	Berlinski, Jacob Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Rivercliff Sandy Springs, GA	Pastor Ordained
2/10/2018	Boyd, Richard Colloquy Committee for Pastoral Ministry	Epiphany Tallahassee	Pastor Ordained
6/28/2015	Carlson, Jeffrey Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO	Trinity Ft. Lauderdale	Pastor Ordained
12/6/2015	Charelus, Saint-Luc Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Bethlehem Haitian Immokalee, FL	Pastor Ordained
5/27/2018	DeBartolo, Seth Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne	Amigos de Cristo, Inc. Ft. Myers, FL	Pastor Ordained
8/6/2017	DeYoung, Nathan Concordia University Texas	St. Paul Peachtree City, GA	DCE Commissioned
8/14/2016	Dippel, Alexis Concordia, Chicago	Trinity Delray Beach, FL	Teacher Commissioned
3/10/2016	Dobbins, Anne Concordia Texas	Good Shepherd Titusville, FL	Principal Commissioned
8/6/2017	Eckstein, Joshua Concordia University St. Paul	Our Redeemer Augusta, GA	DCE Commissioned
8/30/2015	Ellsworth, Adam Concordia Seminary St. Louis	Grace Atlanta, GA	Pastor Ordained
11/12/2017	Faile, Timothy Colloquy - Pastoral Ministry	Living Faith Cumming, GA	Pastor Ordained
6/17/2017	Fair, Stephen Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Our Redeemer Lake City, FL	Pastor Ordained
8/7/2016	Fitsimons, Annalisa Concordia Nebraska	Living Hope Kennesaw, GA	DCE Commissioned
8/2/2015	Ford, Rebecca Concordia Mequon	Faith Marietta, GA	Teacher Commissioned
10/2/2016	Germain, Sarah Concordia Ann Arbor	Grace St. Petersburg, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/16/2016	Glander, Karl Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO	Amigos en Cristo Immokalee, FL	Pastor Ordained
6/25/2016	Harris, Mark Concordia Seminary St. Louis	Grace Winter Haven, FL	Pastor Ordained
7/10/2016	Hemann, Nicole Concordia Nebraska	Holy Trinity Tampa, FL	Teacher Commissioned
6/25/2017	Hudson, Doug Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Bethlehem Jacksonville, FL	Pastor Ordained
7/14/2016	Jones, Crystal Concordia, Chicago	Trinity Orlando, FL	Teacher Commissioned

5/15/2016	Kard, Jennifer Concordia Nebraska	Grace St. Petersburg, FL	Teacher Commissioned
11/15/2015	Kim, Min Concordia Irvine	Living Faith Korean Cumming, GA	Pastor Ordained
8/14/2016	Kollbaum, Clarissa Concordia, Nebraska	Grace Winter Haven, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/14/2016	Kollbaum, Zachary Concordia, Nebraska	Grace Winter Haven, FL	Teacher Commissioned
5/27/2018	Kubowicz, Andrew Concordia Seminary	Ascension Wichita, KS	Pastor Ordained only
2/17/2018	Leggett, James Colloquy for Pastoral Ministry	Our Saviour Miami Shores, FL	Pastor Ordained
7/5/2015	Longman, Eric Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO		Pastor Ordained only
6/21/2015	Martin, Kristen Concordia Austin, TX	St. Michael Ft. Myers	DCE Commissioned
1/14/2018	McCain, Mary Concordia Irvine	Faith Merritt Island, FL	DCE Commissioned
1/8/2016	Moskovites, Nicholas Concordia Seminary St. Louis	Christ the King LaBelle, FL	Pastor Ordained
6/12/2016	Obermann, Joshua Concordia Seminary St. Louis	Grace St. Cloud, FL	Pastor Ordained
7/31/2016	Pennington, Shea Concordia Seminary St. Louis	Hope Plant City, FL	Pastor Ordained
12/16/2017	Popp, Michael Concordia Seminary	Grace Jacksonville, FL	SMP Pastor Ordained
6/4/2017	Proctor, Jack Concordia, Austin, TX	St. Michael Ft. Myers, FL	DCE Commissioned
11/6/2016	Ramos Ruiz, Angel Colloquy, St. Louis, MO	Faith Clewiston, FL	Pastor Ordained
7/30/2017	Ray, Kevin Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Redeemer Stuart, FL	Pastor Ordained
1/24/2016	Reikowski, Ellen Concordia Austin	Immanuel Brandon, FL	Teacher Commissioned
6/17/2018	Roedsens, Jacob Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Our Savior Lake Worth, FL	Pastor Ordained
8/2/2015	Strehlow, Kari Concordia Chicago	Faith Marietta, GA	Teacher Commissioned
4/3/2016	Tayon, Justin Concordia Seward	Trinity Orlando, FL	Teacher Commissioned
5/10/2017	Vogel, Katherine Concordia, Nebraska	Holy Trinity Tampa, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/23/2015	Wareham, Joshua Concordia Chicago	Faith Eustis, FL	Teacher Commissioned
7/16/2017	Warnke, Joseph Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Christ Our Savior Griffin, GA	Pastor Ordained

Rostered Workers Installed in the FLGA District by the end of 2018 Triennium

4/3/2016	Abram, Rev. Mark	Our Savior Plantation, FL	Pastor Ordained
5/7/2016	Adrian, Rev. Mark	Messiah Tampa, FL	Pastor Ordained
2/4/2018	Bedard, Mrs. Julie	Amazing Grace Oxford, FL	EC Director Commissioned
8/7/2016	Blank, Ms. Heidi	Faith Eustis, FL	Teacher Commissioned
2/18/2018	Boeck, Rev. Thomas	Marco Marco Island, FL	Associate Pastor Ordained
5/20/2018	Brown, Rev. Timothy	Christ the King Orlando, FL	Pastor Ordained
8/28/2016	Clark, Rev. John	Trinity Summerfield, FL	Pastor Ordained
8/13/2017	Cluck, Mrs. Kimberly	Trinity Delray Beach, FL	Teacher Commissioned
10/9/2016	Davis, Rev. Jeremy	LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, St. Louis, MO	Chaplain Ordained
4/15/2018	Durante, Rev. Dr. Kenneth	Our Savior Plantation, GA	Pastor Ordained
2/28/2016	Eisold, Rev. Mark	Grace Naples, FL	Pastor Ordained
8/6/2017	Frusco, Ms. Diane	Holy Trinity Tampa, FL	Teacher Commissioned
4/2/2017	Galik, Rev Karl	Peace Naples, FL	Pastor Ordained
9/9/2017	Gebremichael, Rev. Hiruy	St. Mark Tucker, GA	Sole Pastor Ordained
7/17/2016	Gress, Rev. Scott	Lutheran Counseling Services Orlando, FL	Prof. Staff Ordained
8/6/2017	Jaeger, Ms. Lisa	Grace Jacksonville, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/27/2017	Karolus, Ms. Stephanie	First Gainesville, FL	DCE Commissioned
2/5/2017	Klopke, Mr. Phillip	Thrive Estero, FL	DCE Commissioned
8/13/2017	Lane, Mrs. Katie	St. Paul Peachtree City, GA	Teacher Commissioned
8/13/2017	Lowing, Ms. Heather	Trinity Delray Beach, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/29/2015	Martin, Rev. James	Trinity Orlando, FL	Pastor Ordained
1/31/2016	McPherson, Rev. Daniel	Redeemer West Palm Beach, FL	Pastor Ordained
4/15/2018	Michael, Rev. Dr. Gerhard	St. Peter Dehlonega, GA	Pastor Ordained
11/27/2016	Moore, Rev. Jeffery	Our Savior Plantation, FL	Pastor Ordained
10/15/2017	Naylor, Rev. Steven	Holy Trinity Lutz, FL	Pastor Ordained

6/28/2015	Nevis, Rev. Enwood	Good Shepherd Starke, FL	Pastor Ordained
7/30/2017	Pettit, Rev. Joshua	Woodlands Montverde, FL	Pastor Ordained
5/14/2014	Richter, Mr. Timothy	Zion Ft. Myers, FL	DCE Commissioned
10/9/2016	Ritchie, Rev. Andrew	St. Paul Lakeland, FL	Pastor Ordained
4/3/2016	Rottmann, Mr. Michael	Trinity Orlando, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/23/2015	Sandersfeld, Mr. Kip	Faith Eustis, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/21/2016	Shanks, Mrs. Anette	St. John Ocala, FL	Dir. Of Family Life Commissioned
12/17/2015	Song, Rev. Joseph	Stepping Stone Mission Duluth, GA	Pastor Ordained
8/23/2015	Stapleton, Ms. Anna	First Clearwater, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/14/2016	Stillman, Rev. Mark	Faith North Palm Beach, FL	Pastor Ordained
8/9/2015	Swartz, Ms. Diane	St. John Ocala, FL	Teacher Commissioned
8/13/2017	Tillman, Ms. Cynthia	Grace Winter Haven, FL	Teacher Commissioned
7/23/2017	Vogel, Ms. Katherine	Holy Trinity Tampa, FL	Teacher Commissioned
7/16/2017	Warnke, Joseph	Christ Our Savior Griffin, GA	Pastor Ordained
6/16/2018	Webb, Rev. Jeffrey	Trinity Savannah, GA	Pastor Ordained
1/24/2016	Welter, Ms. Leah	Grace Winter Haven, FL	DCE Commissioned

Rostered Workers Reinstated to the LCMS Roster by end of 2018 Triennium

9/24/2015	Lukas, Ms. Jessica	Reinstated to the Roster	Commissioned
2/7/2018	Pitts, Ms. Michelle V	Reinstated to the Roster	Commissioned

Rostered Workers Transferred In to the FLGA District by end of 2018 Triennium

9/7/2017	Adams, Rev. Curtis	Michigan District	Ordained
9/27/2017	Adams, Ms. Joyce	Michigan District	Commissioned
4/14/2016	Adrian, Rev. Mark	Northwest District	Ordained
12/1/2017	Albrecht, Rev. Brian	Northwest District	Ordained
1/11/2017	Armbrust, Mr. Steven	English District	Commissioned
4/4/2018	Arthur, Mr. Dallas	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
11/9/2017	Barnette, Rev. Norman	Rocky Mountain District	Ordained
11/30/2017	Bedard, Mrs. Julie	Southern Illinois District	Commissioned

6/27/2016	Bicknase, Rev. Keith	South Dakota District	Ordained
6/23/2016	Blank, Ms. Heidi	Nebraska District	Commissioned
2/1/2018	Brindle, Rev. Murray	Eastern District	Ordained
6/19/2017	Butt, Ms. Cynthia	South Wisconsin District	Commissioned
6/15/2015	Caughey, Rev. William	Kansas District	Ordained
7/12/2017	Cluck, Mr. Andrew	Missouri District	Commissioned
7/12/2017	Cluck, Mrs. Kimberly	Missouri District	Commissioned
2/7/2018	Collins, Rev. Jerrold	Northwest District	Ordained
2/12/2016	Cooper, Rev. Robert	Mid-South District	Ordained
5/4/2017	Cunningham, Mrs. Judith	CID District	Commissioned
5/21/2018	Dahn, Rev. Mark	Texas District	Ordained
7/1/2015	Duchene, Rev. Michael	Pacific Southwest District	Ordained
5/25/2017	Frusco, Ms. Diane	New Jersey District	Commissioned
11/9/2015	Gabbert, Mr. Timothy	Southeastern District	Commissioned
10/15/2015	Geheb, Rev. Theodore	English District	Ordained
2/17/2017	Greer, Ms. Theresa	Michigan District	Commissioned
1/10/2017	Grewe, Mr. Ralph	Indiana District	Commissioned
12/17/2015	Hanke, Mr. John	Pacific Southwest District	Commissioned
3/12/2018	Heilman, Ms. Deborah	Southeastern District	Commissioned
6/29/2015	Hermann, Rev. Rory	Southern District	Ordained
9/29/2016	Jacobson, Ms. Kay	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
8/6/2017	Jaeger, Ms. Lisa	Kansas District	Commissioned
8/15/2017	Karolus, Ms. Stephanie	Minnesota North District	Commissioned
12/9/2015	Koenig, Mr. Herman	English District	Commissioned
5/20/2018	Lawson, Rev. Jerrald	Missouri District	Ordained
1/10/2017	Lindeman, Ms. Lois	English District	Commissioned
9/21/2017	Lobien, Rev. George	Southeastern District	Ordained
6/3/2016	Lovitsch, Ms. Lisa	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
4/12/2017	Lowing, Ms. Heather	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
8/13/2015	Martin, Rev. James	Ohio District	Ordained
4/4/2018	Martinek, Rev. Robert	Northwest District	Ordained
8/6/2017	Menke, Mr. Thomas	Texas District	Commissioned
6/29/2015	Middleton, Ms. Mary	New Jersey District	Commissioned
11/11/2016	Moore, Rev. Jeffery	Missouri District	Ordained
12/14/2016	Moore, Mrs. Lisa	Missouri District	Commissioned
11/15/2015	Mueller, Rev. Dr. Randall	South Wisconsin District	Ordained
1/30/2017	Muller, Rev. Lyle	Mid-South District	Ordained
10/15/2017	Naylor, Rev. Steven	Eastern District	Ordained

8/30/2016	Newman, Ms. Kimberly	Michigan District	Commissioned
12/22/2016	Patterson, Ms. Judy	Indiana District	Commissioned
2/3/2016	Ramsey, Rev. Thomas	Oklahoma District	Ordained
8/1/2015	Rottmann, Mr. Michael	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
6/15/2015	Sandersfeld, Mr. Kip	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
9/10/2015	Schmidt, Rev. Earl	Minnesota North District	FL
11/29/2016	Shaw, Rev. James	Texas District	Ordained
5/17/2017	Sorenson, Rev. Andrew	New England District	Ordained
7/18/2016	Stillman, Rev. Mark	New Jersey District	Ordained
7/17/2017	Strohschein, Ms. Brittany	Minnesota North District	Commissioned
4/4/2018	Tinder, Ms. Jane	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
6/15/2015	Tubbs, Ms. JoAnna	Texas District	Commissioned
8/1/2017	Turner, Rev. John	Rocky Mountain District	Ordained
7/24/2017	Vega, Rev. Roland	Kansas District	Ordained
2/18/2017	Waynick, Rev. Thomas	Missouri District	Ordained
1/2/2016	Welter, Ms. Leah	Iowa East District	Commissioned
6/12/2017	Worthington, Ms. Katie	Minnesota South District	Commissioned
1/10/2017	Worthington, Ms. Tamara	Pacific Southwest District	Commissioned
5/23/2016	Zimmermann, Rev. Lawrence	Southeaster District	Ordained
6/8/2017	Zwonitzer, Rev. Rodney	Missouri District	Ordained

Workers Transferred to Other Districts by end of 2018 Triennium

7/1/2017	Abraham, Mr. Caleb	Michigan District	Commissioned
7/1/2017	Abraham, Ms. Emily	Michigan District	Commissioned
6/1/2016	Alkire, Rev. Bruce	Southeastern District	Ordained
5/8/2017	Belton, Rev. Victor	Atlantic District	Ordained
10/6/2017	Blanken, Ms. Ann	Indiana District	Commissioned
11/7/2016	Bleier, Ms. Heather	Texas District	Commissioned
7/10/2016	Boehlke, Rev. Craig	Southern District	Ordained
5/9/2017	Brath, Rev. Billy	Missouri District	Ordained
12/21/2017	Carlson, Rev. Jeffrey	North Wisconsin District	Ordained
5/17/2017	Caughey, Rev. William	Iowa West District	Ordained
10/28/2015	Crabtree, Rev. Bruce	Southeastern District	Ordained
4/5/2017	DeBoer, Ms. Kristine	Michigan District	Commissioned
8/1/2015	DeHoyos, Mr. Daniel	California-Nevada-Hawaii District	Commissioned
10/18/2016	Derong, Mr. Wynn	Texas District	Commissioned
4/29/2016	Duchene, Rev. Michael	Michigan District	Ordained

12/15/2015	Felderman, Ms. Carol	Ohio District	Commissioned
6/1/2016	Fountain, Rev. Douglas	SELC District	Ordained
4/17/2018	Gabbert, Mr. Tim	Central Illinois District	Commissioned
7/1/2015	Geidel, Mr. David	Nebraska District	Commissioned
3/1/2018	Goff, Rev. Dennis	Indiana District	Ordained
7/1/2017	Greinke, Ms. Ann	English District	Commissioned
12/27/2017	Hackett, Rev. Thomas	Michigan District	Ordained
11/30/2017	Hageman, Rev. Michael	Kansas District	Ordained
10/21/2016	Harkey, Rev. Edwin	New England District	Ordained
4/16/2018	Hartman, Rev. Jared	Nebraska District	Ordained
6/1/2018	Henny, Ms. Ann	South Wisconsin District	Commissioned
5/31/2017	Holder, Rev. Scott	Missouri District	Ordained
5/8/2017	Hopkins, Rev. John	Atlantic District	Ordained
8/24/2015	Johnson, Rev. Gene	Texas District	Ordained
7/6/2016	Jones, Rev. Daniel	Northwest District	Ordained
4/3/2016	Kirk, Rev. Alston	Texas District	Ordained
1/17/2018	Klopke, Mr. Philip	Texas District	Commissioned
8/18/2015	Krentz, Rev. Eugene	Texas District	Ordained
4/26/2018	Lawson, Rev. Jerrald	Missouri District	Ordained
7/1/2015	Leinberger, Mrs. Elizabeth	Michigan District	Commissioned
7/1/2015	Leinberger, Mr. Timothy	Michigan District	Commissioned
10/30/2016	Mackowiak, Rev. John	Michigan District	Ordained
5/1/2017	Millard, Ms. Molly	Pacific Southwest District	Commissioned
2/4/2018	Moore, Rev. Jeffery	Michigan District	Ordained
9/23/2015	Moore, Rev. Jeffrey	Missouri District	Ordained
9/26/2015	Moore, Mrs. Lisa	Missouri District	Commissioned
11/25/2015	Mulder, Ms. Audra	Southeastern District	Commissioned
4/28/2017	Nelson, Mrs. Becky	Nebraska District	Commissioned
8/1/2016	Nelson, Mr. Scott	Nebraska District	Commissioned
6/13/2016	Pahl, Rev. Justin	Southeastern District	Ordained
8/31/2015	Piller, Ms. Vicky	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
6/15/2016	Roberts, Ms Lisa	South Wisconsin District	Commissioned
10/28/2015	Springer, Rev. Martin	Northern Illinois District	Ordained
7/31/2017	Stackhouse, Ms. Melynda	Southeastern District	Commissioned
11/20/2016	Stewart, Mr. Lamar	Southeastern District	Commissioned
1/15/2018	Sullivan, Mrs. Leslie	Texas District	Commissioned
8/9/2017	Thomas, Mrs. Daisha	Nebraska District	Commissioned
2/3/2015	Thorsen, Mr. Mark	Southern District	Commissioned

7/6/2016	Vogel, Mr. Timothy	Pacific Southwest District	Commissioned
8/11/2015	Weingart, Ms. Jenna	Indiana District	Commissioned
2/10/2017	Wolbert, Ms. Janet	Northern Illinois District	Commissioned
6/30/2015	Ziegler, Mrs. Constance	Nebraska District	Commissioned
6/30/2015	Ziegler, Mr. Robert	Nebraska District	Commissioned

REMOVED FROM THE ROSTER

Workers Called to Glory by the end of the 2018 Triennium

8/18/2016	Abel, Rev. Louis H	Called to Glory	Ordained
6/15/2015	Armour, Rev. Thomas P	Called to Glory	Ordained
1/23/2018	Brusius, Rev. Ronald W	Called to Glory	Ordained
6/5/2017	Busby, Rev. Walter L	Called to Glory	Ordained
6/27/2015	Cruise, Mr. James R	Called to Glory	Commissioned
8/24/2016	Edge, Rev. James	Called to Glory	Ordained
8/3/2015	Frerking, Rev. Robert D	Called to Glory	Ordained
9/2/2015	Froebe, Rev. Roger	Called to Glory	Ordained
8/7/2015	Gabbert, Rev. Lambert G	Called to Glory	Ordained
10/16/2015	Hassold, Rev. Dr. William	Called to Glory	Ordained
9/2/2016	Havekotte, Rev. Alan W	Called to Glory	Ordained
1/12/2016	Heintz, Rev. Norman	Called to Glory	Ordained
3/26/2016	Jackson, Rev. John P	Called to Glory	Ordained
6/21/2017	Kelly, Mrs. Betty Lou	Called to Glory	Commissioned
9/9/2017	Kurzweg, Rev. Bernhard F	Called to Glory	Ordained
10/4/2015	Lomba-George, Rev. Amado	Called to Glory	Ordained
1/9/2016	Mennicke, Rev. Victor O	Called to Glory	Ordained
7/18/2016	Miller, Rev. Richard P	Called to Glory	Ordained
1/9/2018	Rupprecht, Ms. Martha J	Called to Glory	Commissioned
11/4/2015	Schmidt, Rev. Dr. Martin	Called to Glory	Ordained
5/15/2016	Schultz, Ms. Margarete L	Called to Glory	Commissioned
8/21/2016	Sommerfield, Rev. Bruce	Called to Glory	Ordained
7/26/2017	Storm, Rev. Harold	Called to Glory	Ordained
7/9/2015	Thomason, Rev. Warren J	Called to Glory	Ordained
3/31/2016	Vazquez, Rev. Andrew	Called to Glory	Ordained
7/7/2016	Wendt-Foust, Mrs. Gladys	Called to Glory	Commissioned
2/17/2016	Wertz, Rev. Richard	Called to Glory	Ordained

Rostered Workers Removed from the LCMS Roster by end of 2018 Triennium

9/29/2015	Becker, Mrs. Kristin	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Commissioned
1/16/2018	Bonga, Rev. Ebengo	Removed From the Roster Removed by Action of the DP	Ordained
8/16/2016	Bundy, Ms. Amanda	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Commissioned
10/28/2015	Chitwood, Mrs. Elizabeth	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Commissioned
1/16/2018	Cho, Rev. Sung	Removed From the Roster Removed by Action of the DP	Ordained
8/9/2017	DeHoyos, Mr. Daniel	Removed From the Roster Removed by Action of the DP	Commissioned
8/24/2015	Fischer, Rev. John S	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Ordained
9/25/2017	Haney, Ms. Elizabeth F	Removed From the Roster Removed by Action of the DP	Commissioned
11/2/2015	Hansen, Rev. David D	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Ordained
10/27/2015	Montgomery, Ms. Sarah Anne	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Commissioned
8/21/2017	Ogle, Rev. Kevin S	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Ordained
2/6/2018	Preston, Ms. Sharon	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Commissioned
10/16/2016	Stark, Rev. Paul	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Ordained
4/15/2016	Zehnder, Rev. Stephen	Removed From the Roster Resigned Voluntarily	Ordained

Status Change of Rostered Workers by end of 2018 Triennium

7/31/2015	Abraham, Mrs. Emily	From: Active To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
7/14/2016	Albrecht, Ms. Beth	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
12/15/2015	Anderson, Ms. Jessica	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
6/30/2015	Bickel, Mr. Kurt	From: Non-Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
11/13/2015	Bird, Ms. Debra	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
10/31/2015	Blackwood, Ms. Debra	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
10/31/2015	Bortz, Mr. Todd	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
10/31/2015	Bortz, Mrs. Kim	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
8/3/2015	Boye, Ms. Janet	From: Non-Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
4/16/2018	Charelus, Rev. Saint-Luc	From: Active To: Candidate	Ordained

2/26/2016	Cislo , Ms. Jennifer	From: Non-Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
1/9/2016	Cobb , Rev. Kenyatta	From: Active To: Candidate	Ordained
7/1/2015	Concepcion , Ms. Tara	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
6/1/2016	Davis , Rev. Robert	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Ordained
7/31/2015	DeHoyos , Mr. Daniel	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
10/13/2016	Derong , Mr. Wynn	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
6/30/2016	Diaz , Rev. Luis	From: Active To: Candidate	Ordained
4/24/2017	Durheim , Mr. Steven	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
10/1/2015	Fischer , Mr. Robert	From: Active To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
12/15/2017	Fitzsimons , Ms. Annalisa	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
6/23/2016	Floetke , Mr. Karl	From: Active To: Emeritus	Commissioned
4/19/2017	Flor , Rev. Eugenio	From: Candidate To: Emeritus	Ordained
4/2/2017	Fuehler , Rev. Ken	From: Active To: Emeritus	Ordained
4/29/2016	Garland , Ms. Julie	From: Non-Candidate To: Candidate	Commissioned
5/12/2015	Haneline , Ms. Sarah	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
6/30/2018	Hartner , Rev. Timothy	From: Active To: Emeritus	Ordained
6/1/2016	Hill-Bell , Ms. Juanita	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
1/14/2018	Kehret , Rev. David	From: Active To: Emeritus	Ordained
7/14/2016	Knutson , Mrs. Francesca	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
7/1/2015	Leinberger , Mrs. Elizabeth	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
6/10/2018	Martin , Rev. James	From: Active To: Emeritus	Ordained
7/31/2017	McKnight , Ms. Jennifer	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
2/1/2016	Miller , Ms. Kimberly	From: Non-Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
11/9/2016	Mook , Ms. Lynn	From: Active To: Emeritus	Commissioned
4/30/2016	Moss , Mrs. Emily	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
11/25/2015	Mulder , Ms. Audra	From: Non-Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned

5/1/2016	Nelson, Mr. Scott	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
11/13/2015	Nesman, Ms. Sharon	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
3/31/2016	Perez-Arche, Dcs. Sara	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
6/1/2016	Peterson, Mrs. Janice	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
7/14/2016	Phillips, Ms. Barbara	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
10/1/2015	Sandfort, Ms. Mary	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
7/1/2015	Schmidt, Ms. Alexandra	From: Active To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
2/28/2017	Schroeder, Rev. Andrew	From: Active To: Candidate	Ordained
10/31/2016	Schroeder, Rev. Benjamin	From: Active To: Candidate	Ordained
10/31/2015	Schulz, DCS Angela	From: Candidate To: Non-Candidate	Commissioned
4/24/2017	Snider, Rev. Brett	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
2/7/2018	Sollenberger, Ms. Reta	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
1/31/2016	St. George, Ms. Alssa	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
1/31/2018	St. Georges, Ms. Alyssa	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
7/16/2016	Stanski, Ms. Kristi	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
5/23/2016	Stark, Rev. Paul	From: Active To: Candidate	Ordained
4/7/2017	Swett, Mr. Arthur	From: Active To: Emeritus	Commissioned
8/1/2016	Tayon, Mr. Justin	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
10/28/2015	Thurau, Rev. Michael	From: Active To: Non-Candidate	Ordained
5/1/2017	Tillmann, Ms. Cynthia	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
7/14/2016	von Ebers, Ms. Erica	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
5/23/2017	Wiencke, Ms. Dorothy	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned
7/14/2016	Workers, All Candidate	From: Candidate To: Candidate	Reset clock on 10 year limit
7/14/2016	Workers, All Inactive	From: Non-Candidate To: Candidate	Start of 10 year limit
6/30/2015	Ziegler, Mrs. Constance	From: Active To: Candidate	Commissioned

Changes in Status of FLGA Churches by end of 2018 Triennium

10/25/2013	Bethlehem Haitian Lutheran	Immokalee, FL	Initial Membership
8/31/2015	Trinity Lutheran of Southwest Florida	Port Charlotte, FL	Initial Membership
7/12/2015	Hope of Life Lutheran Church	Naples, FL	Closed
3/2/2016	Zion Lutheran Church	Newnan, GA	Closed
4/29/2016	Thrive Community Church	Estero, FL	Initial Membership
1/1/2016	Iglesia Lutherana Sublime Gracia	St. Cloud, FL	New Church Start
1/6/2016	Shekinah Lutheran Church	Orlando, FL	New Church Start
12/4/2016	King of Kings Lutheran Church	Jasper, GA	Member
12/11/2016	Pelican Lutheran Church	Naples, FL	New Church Start
3/7/2017	Hispanice Lutheran Mission at Grace	St. Petersburg, FL	Closed
5/9/2017	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer	Melbourne, FL	Disbanded
7/30/2017	Lamb of God Lutheran Church	Lithia, FL	Closed
12/10/2017	St. John the Apostle Lutheran Church	Buford, GA	Initial Membership
6/30/2017	Faith Lutheran Church	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Closed
3/18/2018	St. Peter Lutheran Church	Dahlonega, GA	Member

Changes in the Status of FLGA District Schools by end of 2018 Triennium

8/25/2015	Open Arms	Sandy Springs, GA	School Closed
8/25/2015	Marathon Lutheran Early Childhood	Marathon, FL	New School Start
11/25/2015	Lake Wales	Lake Wales, FL	School Closed
6/15/2017	Faith Lutheran School	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	School Closed
2/1/2018	Amazing Grace Early Learning Center	Oxford, FL	New School Start

END OF FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT 33RD REGULAR CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS